The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOLUME 11, No. 19 — MAY 27th, 1976

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About the Cover—

George Finlayson did the netting duty for L.I.F. staff member Fred Guardineer's 7 lb. weakfish taken in Great South Bay.

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BOATING

PUBLIC BOATING COURSE AT NASSAT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 13-8 will be conducting a 12 lesson Boating Safety and Seamanship course at Nassau Community College, Garden City, New York. Registration and first lesson will be Tuesday, June 8th 1976 at 7:30 P.M..

Subjects covered are basic boating safety, legal requirements, rules of the road, radio, compass, charting, weather and aids to navigation.

For further information call (516) 868-7908 or 546-2404 after 7:00 P.M.

YOUNG BOATMEN'S SAFETY COURSE

FREE—B. Foster of U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 18-6 will be sponsoring New York State Young Boatmen's Safety Courses during the months of May and June. All children between the ages of 10 to 16 must attend a New York State Boating Class before they can legally operate a motorboat on New York State waters without adult supervision.

The course will take approximately four hours to complete. Children are requested to bring lunch. Again, the course is given free of charge.

Classes will be held on Saturday May 22, June 5, 19, and 26 at The following location. For information contact: B. Foster, 95 Coventry Avenue, Mastic, New York 11950. Call 399-2950.

News Releases

BREEZY POINT

Effective May 23rd, 1976. Parking lot opens from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 P.M. Lot will be locked at 8:00 P.M. If the parking is desired after 8 P.M., key may be obtained at Building 102, Fort Tilden. Key to gate must be returned upon leaving the area.

This parking lot is being made available to the public during daylight hours throughout the summer for passive recreation on Gateway, NRA property only. After 8:00 P.M. parking is permitted for people engaging in surf casting along the bay and ocean beaches.

The beaches in this area are unprotected and caution must be used at all times when engaged in water related activities.

CLUB NEWS

FISHING BUGS CLUB SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

The Fishing Bugs Surf and Stream Fishing Club of Brooklyn elected the following new officers, who took office on May 3rd:

President—Phil Ferrara; Vice Pres.—James Madorma; Treas.—Joe Riolo; Rec. Secy.—Tony Fulco; and Correspondence Secy.—Sam Ballin.

The Fishing Bugs are open for new members either salt or fresh water fishermen. Meetings are the first Monday of the month. Contact Sam Ballin for details. Days (212) 682-2446 or Nights at (212) UL 4-5307.

PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB WEAKISH CONTEST

Twenty intrepid anglers, you might even say die-hard anglers, participated in The Patchogue Fishing Club's annual weakfishing Derby on that sunless, foggy Sunday, May 16th in the waters around Heckscher State Park.

Despite the weather quite a few fish were caught and at weigh-in time the following anglers made off with the prizes—

1st prize to Tony Rizzo Sr. with a 6 lb. 10 oz. weakfish; 2nd prize to Thomas Forbes with a 5 lb. 14 oz. weakfish; 3rd prize to Carl Dippel Jr. with a 4 lb. 12 oz. weakfish and 4th prize to Kenny Pope with a 4 lb. 6 oz. weakfish.

TOURNAMENT ANGLERS

The results of the Tournament Anglers Annual Flounder Contest were:

BOYS: 1st to Eric Schmidt for his 1 lb. 8 oz. flounder; 2nd to Raymond Nettuno for his 1 lb. 7 oz. flounder and 3rd to Mike Radansky for his fish of 1 lb. 6 oz.

GIRLS; 1st to Elisa Signoriello for her fish of 15½ oz.; 2nd to Laura Federoca for her fish of 14½ ounces and 3rd to Trina Signoriello for her fish of 12½ ounces.

LADIES: 1st to Ann Nettuno for her flounder of 13 ounces; 2nd to Pat Signoriello for her flounder of 12 ounces and 3rd to Mary Vignola for her flounder of 11½ ounces.

BRIDGE GAFF

Would the reader who was looking for the article on making a bridge gaff please contact The Fisherman.

EDITORIAL

Most of you are aware by now that on Thursday May 13th 1976 the United States Department of the Interior aired three alternative plans for the utilization of the Gateway National Recreation Area.

In brief review:

PLAN A—Limited shellfishing in certain areas and fishing with spawning species protected. Motorboats would be restricted in certain areas.

PLAN B—Limited shellfishing. Encourage sportfishing. Commercial sportfishing would be prohibited (i.e. party boats and charter boats) Motorboats would be restricted.

PLAN C—Allow shellfishing and other fishing with spawning species protected.

All three plans would prohibit eel jigging and commercial fishing. The most serious impact of this stipulation would be the termination of Jamaica Bay's bait fishing industry. With local bait supplies unavailable there undoubtedly would be serious detrimental effects upon private sportfishing and also the possible economic ruin of local bait sellers including tackle shops and perhaps boat liveries. I say perhaps only because it is impossible at this stage to determine effectively how far reaching the effects of these restrictions would be.

However, there is a more fundamental concept that needs attention. Frank Keating pointed out in his column of May 15th 1976, and I believe correctly, that "fishing, boating, eel potting, bait catching, worm digging must be recognized as healthful, not hurtful activities for Jamaica Bay. Even the bird watchers, who count us among their more dedicated members, must concede this."

You are quite correct Frank. Man is a part of the natural environment. God placed the species Homo sapiens on this planet and thus his activities must also be a natural part of the planet's sound ecological organization. It is not really man's activities which upset the ecological balance of things. More to the point it is certain activities and the abusive expression of other activities. Even bird watching could easily become abusive if the human watcher became intent upon crawling into the nest. Fishing is not abusive, but overharvesting is. Boating is not abusive but dumping gasoline into our waters is; so is running a boat at high speeds across fragile habitats. Bait gathering is not abusive but the destruction of productive marsh areas that nurture the bait is.

This has always been our position and we think it always will be because human life must continue. There is a place for both man and beast in the natural world. We need only search for the scientific answers that will allow us to manage and plan man's activities so that we do not blunder into nature's machinery at a time when it cannot be tolerated or in such a manner that is harmful.

Total prohibition is not the answer. The answers are to be found in public education in the areas of inshore ecology, boating safety and effects of casual abusive behavior on the environment, sound fishing sense, and the enforcement of existing laws which were designed to protect the law abiding citizen and nature's creatures from those among us who are too callous and ignorant to respect our world and its ecology.

In spite of signs to the contrary, Gateway officials assured fishermen that no final plans have been made. We at The Fisherman hope anxiously that this is so. If the final Gateway management rules unfairly restrict human recreation and thus place severe economic hardship upon the communities that border this south shore area we will add our voice to the aroused tones of so many others; public, commercial and private alike, to prevent the enforcement of such plans.

The voice of reason argues that there's intelligent alternatives not yet discussed. We do not believe that any responsible angler, be he sportfisherman or commercial would argue with the validity of protecting spawning species during that brief interval of each year when nature attempts to replenish her stocks. Neither would we resist the ideas of severe penalities for those caught littering, spilling oil and gasoline or intentionally disturbing the normal activities of birds, small mammals, and spawning fish. The destruction of marsh habitat must not be tolerated either but there already exists a N.Y. State Law against such abuses.

We urge Gateway officials to sincerely gather information and opinions from all concerned groups and individuals and come up with an alternative that recognizes that man is a normal part of the natural world.

Lillian A. Fuller

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ASK THE CAPTAIN
OPINIONS & ANSWERS
by Capt. Ronnie Lepper

Question: Unsigned

In reference to striped bass, When chumming what Chum should be used? What Tide? What Tackle? What Bait? When trolling, what speed? What Tide? What Tackle? What Bait? In reference to both methods, which time of day in relation to the tide is most effective?

Answer:

Dear unsigned postcard...I find it totally impossible to answer all of your questions in this column. To obtain a valid answer to your questions, you would have to read my upcoming book on bass fishing. I have donated approximately 250 pages to your questions and most likely have not covered it all.

Question: John Patterson, Central Islip, N.Y.

I have heard and read opinions, all different, as to the proper leader length and pound test for bunker spoon leaders.

Answer:

I find that a ten foot leader of 50 pound test mono does a fine job, and see no reason to change. One point to remember is to watch for frays especially if there are small bluefish around as one will hit the spoon and others will try to eat the swivels on the leader. I have lost many a spoon this way.

Question: Douglas Mullen, Hartsdale, N.Y.

Awhile back in an article you wrote on bunker spoons and wire line fishing you explained how you use plastic colored telephone line to mark your wire.

I do a lot of wire line fishing and would like to know how you wrap the wire to the monel with out it slipping. I have a box of this wire and would like to put some of it to use.

Answer:

Although I use this method myself, I do not recommend it to the average sport fisherman, as it is very difficult to wrap correctly. If this wrap is done improperly it will definitely weaken the wire at that particular point. If the bare copper wire touches anywhere, it will cause a galvanic action (electrolisis) which will also weaken the wire. I recently answered a question on wire line marking, using waterproof tape, (issue # 17, May 13th, 1976) and in my answer, I went into quite a bit of detail. I'm sure that the tape method will do more than satisfy your needs. I've often regretted mentioning the telephone wire wrap as it is an intricate, time consuming wrap. Even though I use the wrap method myself, this doesn't make it the best, it's just that I happen to be used to it.

Question: Mark Uvari, Brooklyn, N.Y.

I read about your new column in the Long Island Fisherman. I would like to ask you a question if you don't mind. I do a lot of bridge fishing and I want to know what is the best method for striped bass fishing from bridges. I hope you can help me. Good Luck on your column.

Asnwer:

As a young boy I used to do a lot of fishing and still keep in touch with a group of fellows specializing in this method. The late Al Reinfelder wrote a very informative book dedicated to bridge fishing (with bucktails) and I will say that there were very few people who were better at it than he. I used to average 10 to 15 bass per night (we only fished nights) and the fish averaged 5 to 20 pounds. I used bucktails most of the time (just white with white pork rind) varying the weight to the location and tide conditions, with 1½ ounce being the most popular size. Jamaica Bay and Reynolds Channel were my favorite haunts, and I know that Al liked the bridges further east, such as the Meadowbrook, the Loop, etc. The method which produced the best, was to cast (conventional tackle) up into the tide and let the bug come councing back down tide, with you picking up the slack. Another productive method was to cast small eel-skins attached to 1 oz. lead heads cross tide, while still casting up into the tide, and retrieving it slowly with slight, short smooth lifts, trying to get it in front of the ice breakers. When using skins (6 to 8") try some of them inside out showing the blue side as this often proves to be a superior catcher. It's touch to fish plugs from the top of a bridge, as you cannot give them the proper action pulling from the top. If you can get down on the banks at either side of the bridge, a slow swimming surface plug is hard to beat. Don't pop it, just swim it slowly across the tide. Blue was a good color and so was dark mackerel shaded green. The Danny and the Atom are excellent choices. I've taken fish in the 40's using plugs many times.

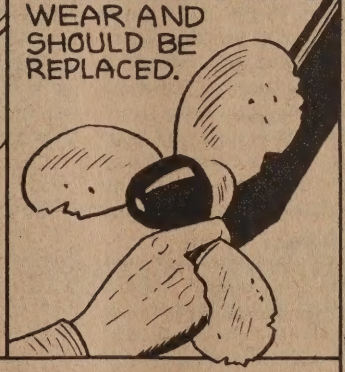
FISHING NEWS & TIPS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

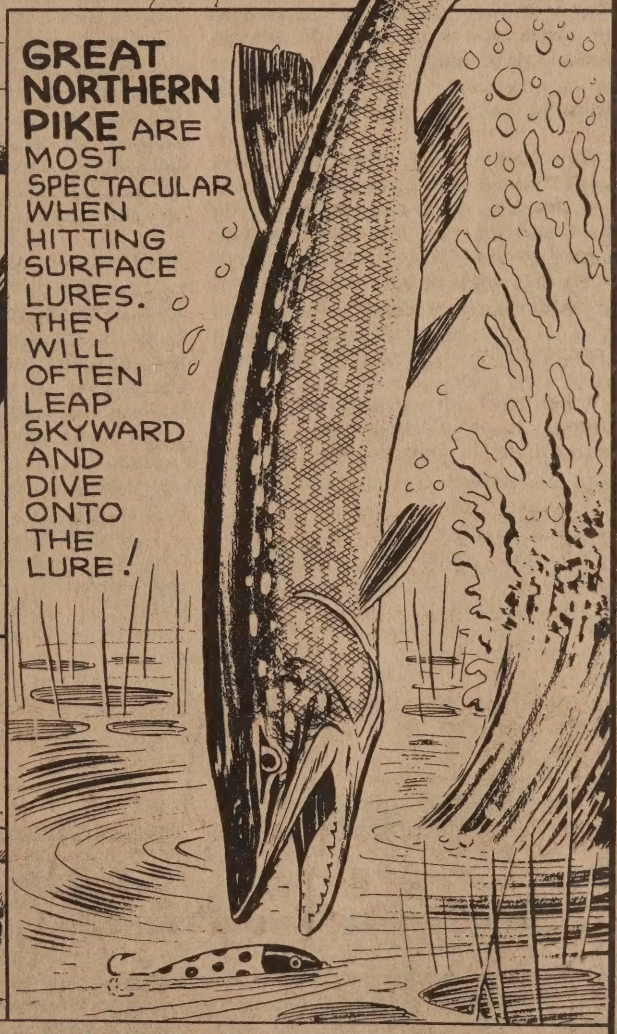
THE U.S. ATLANTIC TUNA TOURNAMENT HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO AUG. 24-25-26 AT GLOUCESTER, MASS. ORIGINALLY SET FOR AUG. 10-11-12, IT WAS CHANGED TO ALLOW FISHERMEN TO BE ABLE TO CATCH A PROPOSED LIMIT OF THREE-A-DAY GIANT TUNA (OVER 300 LBS.) IN EFFECT AFTER AUG. 13.

SPINNING REEL DRAGS SHOULD BE SET TO MATCH THE LINE TEST USED, NOT TO THE SIZE OF THE FISH. LIGHT LINES CALL FOR LIGHT DRAGS.

WORN OUTBOARD PROPS CAN CONTRIBUTE TO ENGINE WEAR AND SHOULD BE REPLACED.



GREAT NORTHERN PIKE ARE MOST SPECTACULAR WHEN HITTING SURFACE LURES. THEY WILL OFTEN LEAP SKYWARD AND DIVE ONTO THE LURE!



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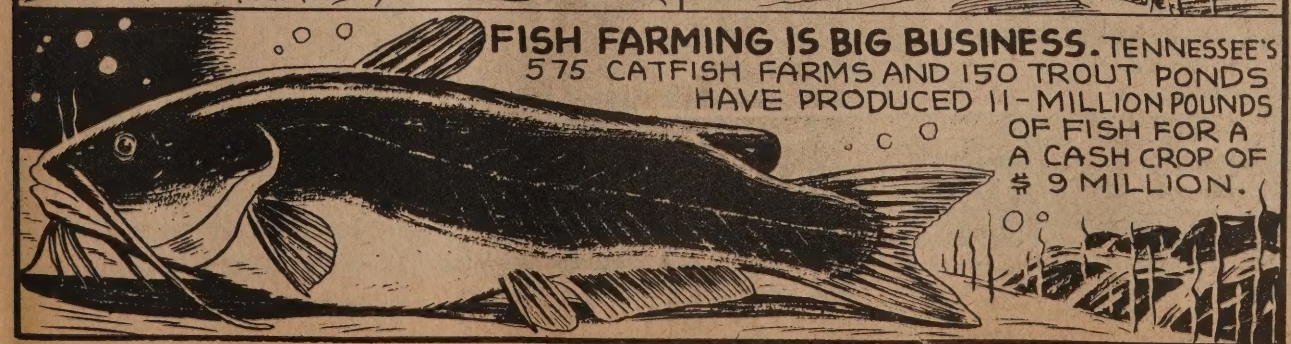

FISH FARMING IS BIG BUSINESS. TENNESSEE'S 575 CATFISH FARMS AND 150 TROUT PONDS HAVE PRODUCED 11-MILLION POUNDS OF FISH FOR A A CASH CROP OF $ 9 MILLION.

Sinker Bouncing KINGFISH

with Matt Ahern

One balmy morning last May I spent a pleasant hour or so watching a handful of sinker bouncers casting from the walk on the south side of Hampton Bay's Ponquogue Bridge.

The squid and spearing fishermen had a fluke or two, but the worm-dunkers were having a slow pick. Some had several fair sized flounders, and those casting near the bridge's underpinnings had a few blackfish, but that was about it.

I was walking back to the car when I heard a good deal of commotion and saw one of the flounder fishermen struggling with an arched-over rod. Whatever was causing all the rukus was no flounder.

I hurried back to watch the fun, but the fisherman had already landed his fish and I could see it beating a tattoo on the roadway. Several curious fishermen had already gathered around.

"What in hell is it?" somebody inquired of no one in particular.

"Kingfish," replied the lucky angler. "And I'll bet it'll go two pounds. Boy! What a scrapper!"

What a scrapper!

This, as anyone who has caught kingfish knows, happens to be the perfect description.

There's no exaggeration in this statement. Few bottom fish in our local waters fight as well or as hard for their size as does the kingfish. Many fishermen have sadly commented that it's too bad kingfish don't reach the weight of stripers or blues. And it is. If they did, I believe they'd be the most sought after fish in Long Island waters.

I caught my first kingfish years ago while indulging in a bit of flounder fishing and much time passed before I caught another. But I always had that first king on my mind. Even today, I can vividly recall the smashing strike and the powerful resistance put up by that fish. No fish I had caught until then had gotten the old adrenaline pumping the way that fish did. Yes, sir. The king is quite a fish.

Many anglers have yet to catch their first kingfish, and those that have enjoyed this rod-bending pleasure usually catch them while fishing for other bottom fish, as did the Ponquogue Bridge fisherman. Never too abundant around Long Island, the kingfish does, however, have a small group of anglers who make it a point to seek him out each summer. They extol the merits of this fish. Loud and clear.

The kingfish season is short with the best months being June, July and August. The latter two have the edge. The least bit of chill in the water sends them packing, so the arrival of Labor Day means the kingfish season is nearing its end.

Extremely sensitive to their surroundings, veteran fishermen often refer to the king as the "weather-prophet". A falling barometer heralding the approach of a storm, quickly sends them from the shallows into deeper water, not to return until the inclemency is over. This is one of reasons fishermen find kingfish frustrating.

It's quite possible to garner a good mess of kings in one locality and get zero in the exact same place the following day. And they can just as easily put in an appearance when least expected.

As an example, several summers ago, I was porgy fishing near Robbins Island in Peconic Bay and suffering the pangs of a slow pick. Suddenly kingfish began to take over.

I caught them as fast as my squid-baited hooks hit bottom. Before they moved off, I had nailed twenty-six, averaging about a pound a piece. Whether they had been attracted by my skimmer chum, I don't know, for I seldom caught kings in this particular spot. But I do know that while they were biting, I took good advantage of it and had a ball.

I returned the next day, loaded for bear, figured the tide as best I could, chummed and you guessed it—got nary a one; but I did catch porgies. So much for setting your sites on kingfish in unexpected places.

But kingfish are found in many places available to the shore fishermen. For the surcaster, any sandy beach along Long Island and New Jersey coastlines has its quota of kings in summer. And for the fisherman who likes the quiet of sheltered areas, shorelines of bays, creeks, channels, and canals have their share too.

I find, though, that the largest kings haunt the ocean beaches; it is nothing unusual to see a three pounder taken by some dyed-in-the-wool kingfish fan. There are records of six pounders taken along the Long Island beaches, but I've never seen one. This is not to say large kings aren't caught in sheltered waters, they are, of course, but the average is usually about a pound.

Spinning tackle is ideal for kingfish. With it the angler can allow the fish to really pour on the steam, and pour on the steam, it will. Depending upon fishing conditions, any light to medium spinning rod and matching reel filled with eight to ten pound test mono works well. If fishing inside ocean inlets and throughout deep water channels where heavier than usual sinkers and line may be required, it's best to use the medium weight stuff.

For ocean beaches, any surf stick, either spinning or conventional, plus a matching reel filled with fifteen pound mono will do the trick. This heavier stuff has the oomph to get the bait out where the fish feed. Lighter stuff just won't do it, except under certain conditions, such as a strong offshore breeze which may aid in getting the rod out the required distance. But don't count on it.

Ocean kingfish can be caught while casting from the ends of rock jetties, and often on their lee side when the water is at least ten deep on high water. Incidentally, kingfishing is always best on an incoming tide. This enables the fish to scour the shallows in search of food and also enables the fisherman to put his rig where it will do the most good.

Some anglers use their medium weight stuff when fishing the jetties; sometimes with good results, and sometimes not; again depending upon fishing conditions, such as strength of undertow, wave action, etc. This type of fishing often necessitates the use of heavier than usual sinkers, which the fisherman using medium weight tackle often finds difficult to handle. Be on the safe side and use tackle designed for the area you intend fishing.

When fishing the surf, be sure to use only pyramid sinkers. This sinker is designed so that it will become anchored in the hard-packed sand bottom. Should you use any other type, it will be subject to wave action and undertow, causing it to roll about, giving poor control over the rig.

Rigging is simple enough, so long as the fisherman remembers kingfish are bottom feeders. I won't go so far as to say kings won't rise off bottom to feed. Until last summer I always believed hooks had to be on bottom to catch kingfish, but this was because until then I had never caught a kingfish other than

on bottom.

But one day last summer while snapper fishing, I began receiving line-zipping strikes, but couldn't sink the hook. More out of curiosity than anything else, I put on a smaller hook and immediately began to catch half pound kingfish at least ten feet off bottom.

So much for making positive statements about fishing, but the smart fisherman seeking kingfish will rig so that his bait is always on the bottom for best results. I know that if I were to fish kingfish tomorrow, I'd forget about my chances of achieving success with unorthodox methods. As an experiment, yes; but not if I wanted fish in the bucket.

When fishing bays and other inland areas, I use a regular shanked beak or claw-type hook, in either a number one or 1/0 size. Some fishermen I know insist on nothing larger than a number six, and some think the Sproat style hook is the only one to use. The choice is yours, of course.

When surf fishing, it's best to use a 1/0 in any of the recommended styles. This should be snelled on a two-foot, twenty pound test leader. Surf kings are easily caught on 1/O's, and if you nail a dogfish or skate, you'll find this hook much easier to remove. Place this about three inches above your sinker.

When fishing sheltered areas, two hooks, tandem tied, can be used for best results. Double-headers are not uncommon, and two desperate kingfish on one line are guaranteed to give any fisherman a tussle.

To tandem tie, simply fold the snell of one hook at its middle and place it through the knotted loop of the second. This second hook is then put through the fold of the first hook, drawn up tightly and secured with an overhand knot. You can do it in seconds. And not only that, you'll know your hooks are always on bottom.

Place these hooks two inches above a bank sinker of one or two ounces, weight depending upon tidal conditions, either with or without the aid of a three-way swivel. I think it is always best to use a swivel when kingfishing, as the hooks are less likely to tangle when casting. Tie in your swivel with an Improved Clinch Knot.

The angler has a good selection of bait from which to choose. For best results, I find the sandworm has no equal, although bloodworms work well most times. I have used squid, shrimp, soft, hard and skimmer clam on occasion, but nothing works like the squirmers. At times, I've had great luck with small, frozen spearing. One thing to keep in mind, though is that all bait must be as fresh as possible. Freshly thawed baits are okay if used immediately.

The trouble with most thawed bait is that it quickly becomes soft. Not only is this soft stuff difficult to cast, but unless the fisherman absolutely knows the bait he's using is freshly frozen, I'd forget about it. Kingfish are fussy; they require fresh bait—the fresher the better. Use your tired bait for less finicky fish, if you wish, but don't offer it to the king.

Boat fishermen often catch kings when chumming for other bottom fish. But whether they respond to the chum, or are just there anyway, I don't know. It might be worth the effort to try; certainly the fisherman has nothing to lose. Look for hard sand bottom as few are caught over mud.

Kingfish are delicious eating and when found in the commercial markets always bring premium prices. They are one of the tastiest fish in the sea. The larger ones can be turned into choice fillets and the smaller ones, pan fried.

This summer except the challenge the kingfish offers. You may well become a fan. There's good reason why this fish is called "king."

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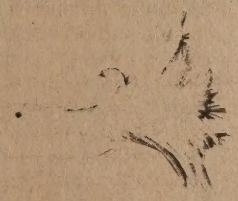

DRAG FEATHER

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JIG'N TAILS

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BUNKER SPOONS

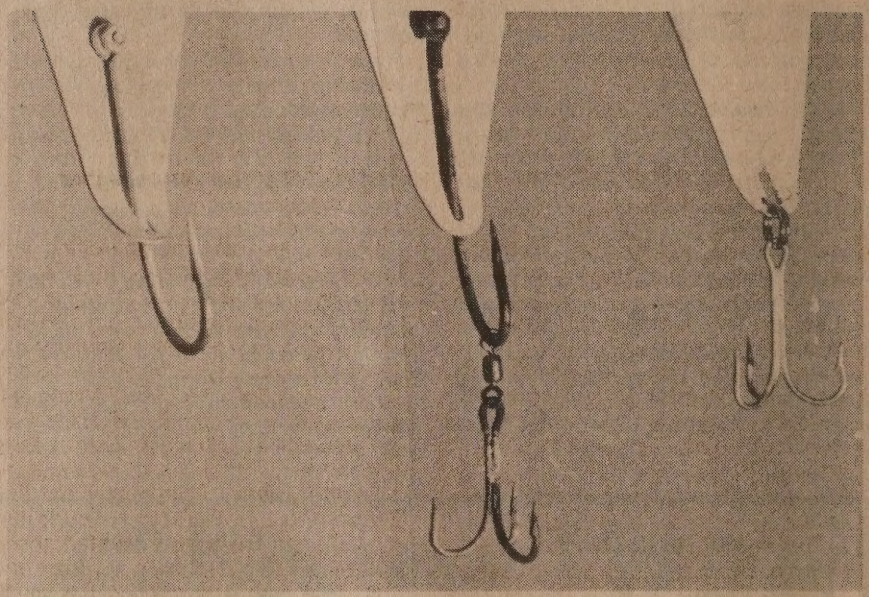
by Pete Barrett

Probably the most misunderstood trolling lure, bunker spoons are still one of the most consistent catchers of bigger bass. Umbrella rigs undoubtedly hook more fish, but the spoons are the magic lures of the pros and charter Captains that usually connect on the gorilla bass. Many boats work long soft spoon rods out the sides letting them pump with the rhythm of the swinging fish lures. Tubes and rigs worked down the center or in pairs off the stern come up with more fish, many of them small sized, yet when the drag sings out on the side rod, you can safely bet that it is a decent bass that has grabbed the spoon.

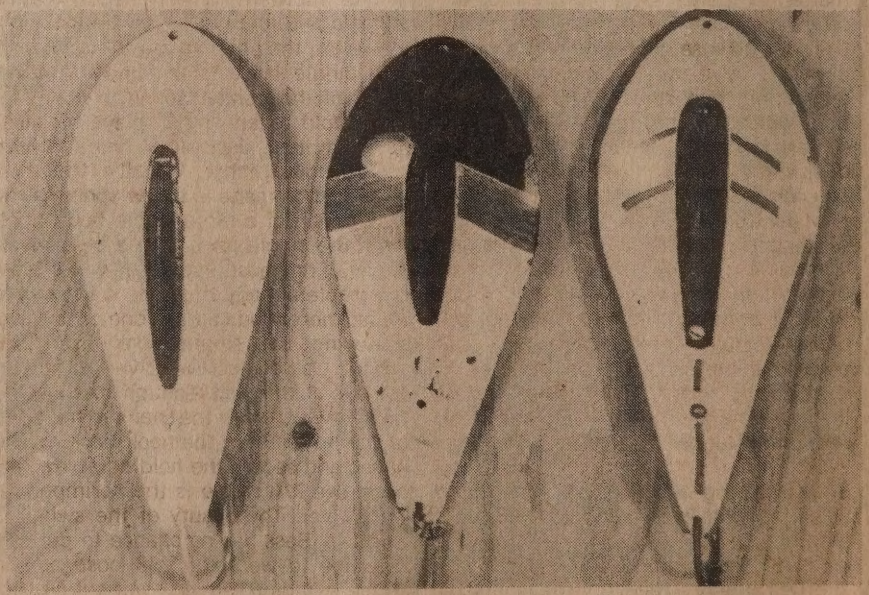
To properly fish spoons you should be rigged up with tackle matched to the action and style of bunker spoon fishing. Rod action is more important than rod length, and it is a soft, giving rod taper that is best and brings out the correct action of the lure. Stiff rods inhibit the swings and pulsating movements of a good spoon. One of the nicest production rods is the Garcia #2565, a 6'8'' rod equipped with carboloy guides. Another is the Fenwick #631 30 lb. class trolling rod.

The most effective rods for fishing spoons are the long soft rods run out to the sides of a boat and acting as outriggers. You can make your own from surf blanks like the BT-108-3M and Austrailian Thunderbolt S-3.

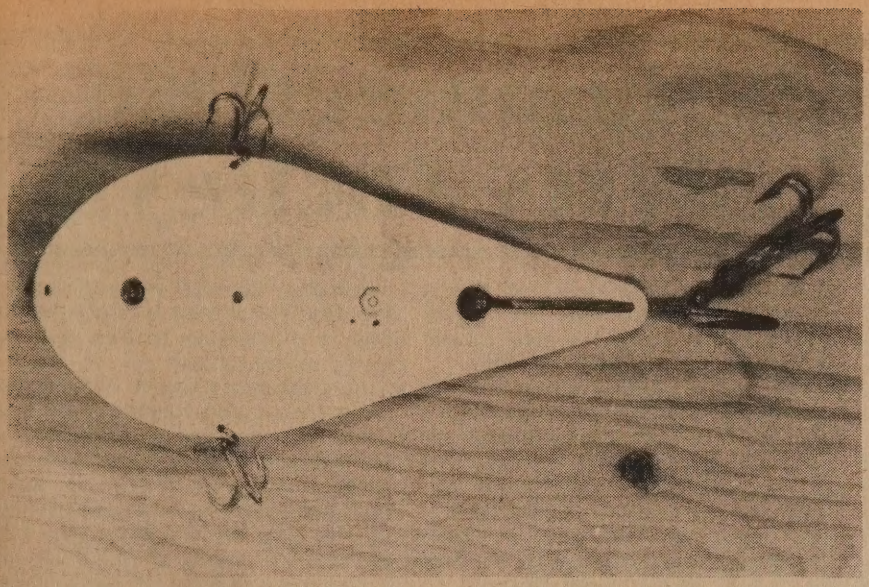
Since spoons are worked with wire line, carboloy guides are a must. Standard guides will groove immediately. Another choice is the aluminum oxide guides marketed by Fuji and others. Although I have heard of some trollers having experiences with cracked guides, my own experience has shown these guides to be superior to carboloy. However, if you do install them on a rod, be sure to select the sturdy boat rod DHG series. The guides with the lighter frames are not meant to stand up to heavy trolling. I have one rod now in its third season with the Fugi guides and so far only one guide has grooved. Compared with other rods wearing out one or two guides of the carboloy type every other year. Regardless of the guide



Left. Standard single hook, center, treble hook added, right, single hook replaced with one large treble.



Spray paint and magic marker can change a spoon into a better bass fooler.



Earring hooks at the sides and a swinging treble at rear assure higher ratio of hook ups.

you use, wire puts on a lot of pressure and they do wear out in time.

There are some trollers who use roller tip-tops, but the standard tops with a carboloy or aluminum oxide ring are better. Rollers have moving parts that can hang up because of corrosion or pressure from a big fish. Also, barrel swivels, the most convenient method of attaching the wire to backing and leader, will not pass through many rollers.

The trend today is away from the old time narrow spool reels used years ago for wire line trolling. The most often used reels now are the Penn 500M, 112H, 113H, and the Mitchell 624.

Pound test of the wire is partly a matter of personal choice. 30 pound offers more sport, some say, but it also breaks with ease under the first kink. 50 pound is good but the larger diameter doesn't get as deep as the 40 pound test line which is the most popular and easiest to handle. Unless you fish very deep water, you can use 50 yards of wire on each reel.

Many trollers have a "secret formula" for leaders, and depending on who you talk to, a 10 foot 80 pound leader is better than a 20 foot 60 pound leader which is better still than a 12½ foot 100 pound leader. Often, there are days when a dumb school of bass moves in that hasn't heard about your perfect leader length and they'll hit better on something longer or shorter than your secret formula. Leave room for some experimenting. I like a leader made from 60 pound clear Ande trimmed to a 15 foot length. Yet my trolling box also has some 10 foot lengths and even a few shorties of only 5 feet. A large snap is at one end, the other is tied to the wire with a barrel swivel.

There is one real hang up trolling with spoons. Many fish are lost, either at the strike or later half way through the battle. Many is the time a big fish will belt a spoon, the rod bends violently and the drag screeches, but only for a second and the line goes slack. Russ Wilson and I were pulling umbrellas and spoons off last November when a bass nearly yanked one of the spoon rods out of the holder—and unfortunately the line immediately went slack. Out of curiosity, we hauled in the freshly painted spoon and found teeth scratches all down the side. That bass had grabbed the spoon and slid right down the edge missing the large hook and even the swivel mounted treble!

The incident above illustrates a chronic problem with spoons—lost fish. However, the problem can be corrected. The single large hook almost a trade mark of the bunker spoon, can wear a huge hold as an angler plays his fish. The slightest slack and "oops" there goes your trophy. Usually the first modification made to a new spoon is the installation of a large treble hook hung from the single hook with a big swivel. Many, if not most, spoons now sold have the treble already in place. If the treble is not there, you can put one on by first removing the single hook from the spoon. Using a screw driver to spread the eye of the hook enough to slide the barrel swivel down the shank to the bend of the hook. Place the hook back on the spoon and secure the holding screw. An open eye 7/0 treble is then crimped on the swivel. The beauty of the swivel is that Mr. Bass has no chance to get any leverage to work himself loose as the treble swings freely and without restriction.

One very deadly modification made to bunker spoons is the addition of "earring" hooks installed at the widest part of the spoon (as shown in the photo.) Any bass striking the spoon from the side is sure to be hooked solid on these earrings. Manufacturers claim these hooks kill the spoon's action, and to a certain extent they are right, but most spoons will take the hooks with minimal loss of action and pay off with many more hookups. A hole drilled on each side of the spoon about 1/16th inch from the edge will secure the hooks which are mounted on split rings.

Spoons can also be improved with a little spray paint and magic marker. The best all around color is pure white with a red keel. Beyond this you can use your own imagination to make these lures more attractive to Mr. Bass. A red magic marker marks gill lines, stripes and bars; while spray paint can add gold flecks to better imitate a live bunker or slashes of red, green and blue. The late Al Reinfelder once showed me an absolute work of art, a spoon painted bronze, silver and purple with splashes of gold flakes that truly looked like a fresh, oily bunker. He wouldn't say whether the creation caught bass, but the spoon was well used and the hooks were rusted as if from the fish slime.

Whatever color you use, or modifications you make, the bunker spoon is a dynamite bass lure.

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Surf Side with Bill Young

Summertime Jetty Jockeys

It was early in May, when my fishing partner Chip Albion and I started to plan future fishing trips. We talked about making Montauk in the fall and maybe a trip to Nantucket. But we still needed a good bass spot for June. Chip suggested we should try some jetty fishing. I remembered that in the early part of June last year, he had taken a 32 pound bass from one of the inlet jetties.

Since I was quite new to this kind of fishing, I asked Chip to explain the conditions and equipment necessary for jetty fishing. Chip then went into details. First about the tide—it had to be moving fairly strong. This made the days around the full and new moon the best. Outgoing water was more productive than incoming. Then we started to talk about equipment.

As the jetty rocks are slippery so jetty creepers are essential. To land fish in the strong current, the line has to be at least 20 pound test. Due to the rocks, a leader of at least 50 pound test was necessary. The right lure to use is a white bucktail weighing between 2½ to 3½ ounces, depending on tidal flow. It is wise to add a long fluttering strip of porkrind to the bucktail hook. When the current begins to move or when it tapers off at the bottom of the tide, use the lighter bucktails, but during the peak current strength of 3½ ounces are needed.

The most productive time of year for bucktailing the inlet jetties for big bass is from the third week in May through the beginning of July. Chip impressed me with his knowledge and I became very eager and enthusiastic to try my hand at jetty jockeying. The best of Chip's information was that most of the bass taken by this approach exceed 15 pounds!

Finally the time was at hand. It was early in June, and we had a falling tide after dark. Just before dark, Frank Arendt, Chip and myself loaded our gear into the buggy. As we rode along, Frank and I asked Chip various questions about the working of the bucktail. According to Chip, to be successful one had to bounce a bucktail down the current trying to imitate a small flounder moving along the bottom. During the late spring and early summer loads of flounder begin to migrate toward cooler and deeper water. The larger flounder seem to follow the main channel out to sea, but the small fish of 3 to 6 inches move out along the edge of the channel and here is where the bass wait for them to be tumbled down-tide by the foiling current.

As we were putting on our creepers, one of the regulars stopped to talk to us. From our conversation with him, we learned that a few fish had been taken earlier in the week. Full of confidence from this news, the four of us walked out on the jetty. After about two hours without so much as a touch, my confidence was down to zero. All of a sudden, the regular sang out, "Im in!" As I watched with envy he brought in a fish of about 25 pounds. Next turn was Chip's, when he announced that he had a hit. Then, on the very next cast, he hooked and landed a fish that was around 18 pounds. About one half hour later the regular had another fish. Then Chip was in again but lost the fish. All I got for my efforts was a feeling of frustration. The current was slowing down as we walked off the jetty. Chip had his one fish but had lost the big one after a long fight. The regular had three fish. Frank and I didn't have as much as a hit. All the way home Frank and I talked about what we did wrong. Chip

felt that we were not working the bucktail correctly. We both finally came to the same conclusion. We said good night and agreed to go back the next night.

That next day all I could think about was how to work the bucktail properly. I felt that, depending on the current, it was either sliding out the inlet or bouncing too high. Either one of these actions certainly did not resemble a flounder. To stop the sliding I felt a light lifting of the rod would do the trick. To prevent the lure from bouncing high off the bottom I would either have to cast more up current or let out some line.

At night the three of us were back on the jetty. Conditions looked perfect, with a stiff breeze out of the southwest, which gave the inlet plenty of white water. It also was the night of the full moon and the tide would be at its strongest. I was determined to get a fish tonight. After two hours of trying, I finally thought I had the bucktail working properly when I felt a slight and steady bouncing. Another one half hour must have passed when I finally felt something hit it. It was gone so fast that I could not be sure what it was. Half-way through the next retrieve it happened again. This time I was ready and struck back at the pick up. The fish took off in the current, but I soon turned off the jetty. I got her back towards me, and Chip soon gaffed the bass. The bass weighed in at 28 pounds. Later on in the night I hooked but lost another fish when it decided to swim around the front of the jetty. By the end of the tide, Chip and I both had fish, but Frank was still fishless. I felt confident that I was finally working the bucktail properly. I told Frank on the way home that I was sure that working the bucktail correctly would also do the trick for him. Frank asked me when I was cleaning the fish to check and see what it was feeding on. When I got home I wasn't at all surprised to see the remains of three small flounders in his stomach.

By the end of June, Frank, Chip and I had some more good nights together and landed a few more big bass with this method. I couldn't thank Chip enough for introducing me to bucktailing in June for bass.

A few closing words for those who are thinking about trying to fish the jetties. They can be dangerous at times. One should not go out on a rising tide when the water looks too rough. Those waves that are not washing over at low water just may at high tide. A little common sense should be used...there will always be another night. Good fishing!

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The Long Island FISHERMAN FISHING TRIP CONTEST

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.

LAST WEEK'S WINNER:
Mr. Joseph Lambert called into L.I.F. a description of his car by the Friday deadline to become this weeks winner. Along with his cash prize of $20 he has also chosen a fishing trip for 2 aboard the Peconic Queen III.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:

732-SCP

Weekly winners of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

MONTAUK
Viking Star
Peconic Queen III
Marlin III

CAPTREE
Speedy VI
Capt. Ben Litwin
Capt. Joseph Fleet

SHEEPSHEAD BAY
Amberjack IV
Chief

FREEPORT Aloma II

NORTH SHORE
Port Jeff Ace
Betty W

Locating Striped Bass

Part III

by Leonard S. Baum

June: Early June marks a further dispersal of big fish along the entire bass range, including in cursions into inlets, bays and near bridges. These inshore areas usually produce best to live bunkers and eels fished at nght.

Jersey is excellent from Monmouth Beach to Flynn's Knoll and fresh dead or live bunker and herring now often outfith trollers especially after daybreak. when the full moon appears in early June, daytime fishing can dive but night-time angling with plugs, eels and bunker can be superb. As the month progresses the fishing can sparkle one day and die the next until the run peters out in early July. Flynn's Knoll, Romar Shoals, and the Tin Can Grounds now can save the day with bucktails and umbrellas during daylight hours; bait and plugs at night. Of course some big fish fall to the sharpies all summer long. Montauk can remain hot but by mid month look to Plum Gut and the Race for fast fishing with bucktails (both trolled and drifted) and umbrella rigs. Soon Fisher's Island Sound catches fire with plugs and bucktails.

Connecticut starts producing lunkers again with reports from Greenwich and the Norwalk Islands leading all other places. New Haven, Stonington, Sunken Island, Shippan and the Callender's Pt. areas all report fish too. Live mackerel, mackerel chunks and strips, and large plugs are the most consistent producers with bait holding the edge. These baits are good all month lnog but after mid-June more big fish are reported on bunker, worms and live eels. About June 15th the beaches, jetties and panels along the south shore of Long Island peak. Best are fresh live or dead bunkers cast right into the wash and worked out up to a few hundred feet off the beach. The quality of this fishing usually depends on the quantity of bunker in t ıe area because there are few mussel beds, rock bottoms or rips to concentrate bait and hold the migrating stripers. Trollers do best with bunker spoons and large single tubes. In the inlets and bays, night prowling boatmen can look forward to 3 weeks of real potential with live bunker or live eels. Surprising numbers of fish into the 50's are pryed from Jones and Fire Island Inlets, around the Meadowbrook and Wantagh bridges, Zach's Bay and the state channel behind Jones Beach. This fishing can sizzle well into July. However don't expect much during daylight hours.

School bass enthusiasts have several

Jennifer Baum with her first striped bass; one of many schoolies that fall for poppers each year in early September.

options. Clam chumming is good at the Meadowbrook, Wantagh, Atlantic Beach and Fire island area bridges, along the banks in the state channel behind Jones Beach and in Reynold's Channel. Trollers work the tides at Tin Can Grounds and Romar Shoals with white bucktails, umbrella rigs and umbrella rigs armed with small squid spoons. Shore bound anglers will find that tins squids, small plugs and small eel imitations work well along the beach, inlets, marsh banks and bays.

Now also is the time for bunker dunkers to start scoring in Long Island Sound. Crane's Neck and the Narrows at Port Jefferson, Coopers Bluff and Whitewood Point, Centre Island reef and Oak Neck Pt. produce many cows when bunker abound. Bucktails, drifted worms and trolled spinner and worm combinations are good for schoolies and occasional lunkers throughout the summer. In late June and July Connecticut's Sunken Island, Norwalk Islands, Stamford, Callender's Pt., Bridgeport, Compo Beach, Bedfords Point, and Greenwich Point can be excellent with the baits and lures previously mentioned.

July—During July Montauk can be good but don't count on it. Use bucktails and tubes by day, plugs by night under the lighthouse and at the Elbow. The Race often is fabulous with bucktails and plugs doing it. Long Island Sound fishing can be hot or cold depending upon whether the bunker abound. When they are, whole bunker and bunker chunks have produced socko catches at numerous harbors and points. Eaton's Neck is a spot that now seems to produce fairly consistently. Bunker for lunkers; clam chummers for quantity if not for size. Trolled bucktails and umbrellas take all sizes. Rocky Point, Cold Spring Harbor and Target Rock are other July producers.

August—Although August brings the doldrums, Connecticut's Norwalk Island and Stanford Cows often prove the exception. Other good spots are Greenwich Pt., Charles Island, Bedford's Point, Milford Point, Collanders Point and Smith's Ledge. Bunker, eels, sandworms, and plugs produce at night. It appears that more big fish are taken 'rom the Connecticut shore during August than any other area we have

covered. New York's side of Long Island Sound produces schoolies and some lunkers too. Eaton's Neck is consistent with clam chum and trolled worms. Crane's Neck has given up biggies on plugs and bunker.

Plum Gut can be good on plugs and drifted bucktails at night. As to New York's south shore, Tin Can Grounds often yield schoolies (some to 20's) with clam chum, trolled bucktails and spoon rigged umbrellas. This is daybreak and dusk fishing. Otherwise the south shore is quiet except for sporadic catches in the inlets and state channel (bunker and eels at night) and with bunker along the beach jetties. Find the bunker and maybe you'll match the 63½ pounder taken in Jones Inlet during August of 1973. Schoolies can be plugged from beaches, channels and inlets at night with the key factor being the abundance of bait.

New Jersey boatmen take a few bass on bunkers, and on eels trolled at night. Surfcasters do best with sandworms, poppers and swimming plugs, again at dawn, dusk and night.

September—All of the spots and methods mentioned for Connecticut in August should be explored in September with more fish now falling to plugs. In Long Island Sound worms and spinners with worms have done very well at Harts Island, Cold Spring Harbor and Target Rock. Year in, year out, Eaton's Neck reports the most consistent results, usually on clam chum. Clam chumming also improves at previously mentioned south shore spots. More importantly, mullet make forrays from inlets to the beach offering great plugging opportunities. Blitzs can occur, usually after strong northerly blasts. Poppers and swimmers hook schoolies and some lunkers. Better yet, use rigged and live eels when mullet abound for 20 to 45 pounders which seem to appear overnight from nowhere, along the beaches. Rockaway, Long Beach, Democrat Point, Cedar Beach, Gilgo, Jones Beach and West End are past producers. This fishing really heats up by about September 21st. By the same token, Montauk can erupt at this time, especially after a storn. Pollack Rip, the Elbow and the Lighthouse are the places to troll. Surfcasters just weigh them in without telling!

New Jersey also comes alive, especially on plugs and rigged eels in the surf. The mullet run is the key.

October—This is a magic month. But if you don't know where and how, it can be awfully frustrating to hear of everyone else's catch while gazing into a scaleless fish box. Let's take it a week at a time. The tempo picks up in New Jersey for surfers and trollers but the real biggies won't arrive in mass until about the 20th. Montauk builds rapidly with trollers using plugs and eel imitations at night, bucktails and umbrellas by day. Pollack Rip, the Elbow and under the Lighthouse are good. There really isn't much to tell about Montauk. When the bluefish leave you alone any day can be a bonanza with most lunkers coming in at dawn, dusk and night.

The south shore beaches excell now with the blitzs occuring each year sometime between the 8th and the 11th. Surfcasters do best with eels at night. Trollers will score but until about the 15th, the very best fishing has been on bunker fished close to the beach, and on bunker and eels fished in the inlets at dawn, dusk and at night. Look to Fire Island and Jones Inlets and all along the Rockaways, Atlantic and Long Beaches and from Jones Beach to the Sore Thumb. After the 15th bait fishing seldom is as good as trolled lures; bunker spoons and large tubes by day; plugs and eel imitations before daylight. Clam chum and trolled bucktails worm best on schoolies in the inlets. The cows mass in the Fire Island-Jones Beach areas until the third week of October (but can arrive in pods into early November), thereafter peaking at Long and Atlantic Beaches during the end of October into early November. Every year differs but trollers should try 20-25 feet of water until mid month and 30 to 40 feet later in the month. Jersey is excellent from the end of October on. Plugs, spoons and large tubes are all good. Look to Flynn's Knoll, Romar Shoals, and Snady Hook down to Monmouth Beach.

On Long Island's North Shore the Race, Plum Gut (bucktails) and the ruins near Gardiner's Island are good. Eaton's Neck continues to produce with umbrellas doing very well. Surfers should frequent East Marion to Orient Point.

Connecticut reports are now slow but depending on the year and bunker supply, the fishing can hold up. The reliable Norwalk Islands stand out but all of the previously mentioned areas can produce. There often is fast schoolie fishing on worms, small plugs and bucktails.

November—This is a month of fast changes. Trollers along Long Island's south shore and New Jersey must be alert to the change of striper fodder from bunker to sandeels. During the first week of November, depending on how much bunker is left, spoons will produce but large purple, black and red tubes fished close to the bottom now probably will do as well or better.

Top Jersey spots are Flynn's Knoll, the Highlands and Monmouth Beach. Live eels excell for bait fishermen though bunker dunkers still score in Jersey.

By November 7th, umbrellas are the surest bet with black or purple attractors and a single small Lupo eel or Bingle Lancer type lure trailing a few feet behind, down the middle. Sky blue (early morning) and green also have done well recently. This is the lure to use until the run peters out in late November with key spots being "between the channels" (in between Ambrose and Sandy Hook channels), the Highlands and Monmouth Beach. Long Beach and Atlantic Beach in New York also can be hot but by mid November they seldom compare to Jersey where the middle two weeks of the month often produce the fastest action of the season.

Although the best is gone after early November, surf bound eel slingers still produce some very big fish at the Sore Thumb, Cedar Beach and Gilgo. The third week of November produced 12 fish one night in 1974 at Jones Beach including fish of 54 and 62 pounds.

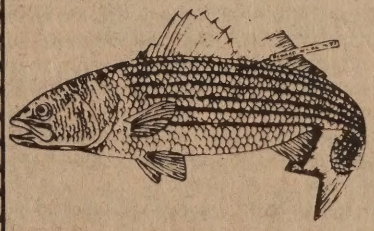
Connecticut's supply of big bass is way down in November. Look for fast action with schoolies heading up the Hudson and an occasional lunker. Compo Beach, Bedford's Point, Milford and the Norwalk Islands are good.

Montauk still sizzles, same lures and locations. Montauk holds up through November and even later but with fewer cows after mid month. The North Shore standout remains Eaton's Neck, buoy #13, with black or white umbrellas to match the spearing and sandeels that invade the area.

REWARD

FOR

Tagged Stripers



Texas Instruments is conducting an environmental study to determine the movements and populations size of the striped bass in the Hudson River, along with their contribution to the coastal sport and commercial fisheries. An estimated 3000 striped bass will be tagged from March through June. Texas Instruments will pay a $5 cash reward for each tag. To obtain the reward on your fish, return the tag along with the date, method and specific location of capture to:

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BASS FISHING with Capt. John DeMaio

GRASS SHRIMP
Part I

What ever happened to bass chumming with shrimp? This one time popular method seems to have vanished from Long Island. Perhaps the take over of clam bellies has aided in its disappearance. Also the involved handling needed to keep the shrimp alive. Or is it out of style, like last years hot lure? I guess the reasons are relative to the individual and the area. What a shame! Especially now that the weakfish are back. Both bass and weakfish will line up to suck in a tail snapping grass shrimp.

Clam bellies are the miracle worker on striped bass! No doubt about it. The way bass tend to commit suicide over a clam belly has amazed even the most experienced fisherman. With todays high market prices, many a novice has supplemented his income. In fact, a great many boats have been purchased with the intention of meeting the bank notes on the strength of striped bass catches. Just recently, someone I know held off on buying a new boat until the PCB business is cleared up. Buying boats on the strength of the forth-coming years catch is common practice amongst commercial fishermen. Unemployment check collectors, retired people, and weekend warriors doing the same is sad. Understandable, but nevertheless sad. So clam bellies have become more than a dynamite bait. It is a statement of the times.

Chumming with shrimp still has 'sport' attached to it. Light lines, small hooks, thin rods, and tiny reels keep it a pure method of chumming and a very productive one. I have had many a 200 and 300 pound day using shrimp and enjoyed it a lot more than what I ever caught using clams. Also, I believe that shrimp will work better than clam bellies inside the bays. Another plus is the way it takes blackfish. The biggest kind where you least expect it. Oh yes, the attributes are many. Unfortunately, the problems are endless. I will attempt to cover all.

Where and how to obtain the shrimp. The easiest way is to buy them, of course. Where to buy is the problem. If you do find a source, is it near your boat? Mostly boat rentals handle live shrimp. Or did. Without the call for it, why bother; so if you cannot buy it, catch it.

The precautions involved begin with the building of a shrimp cart. The same as a killy cart. One 2 by 3 feet should be enough to handle 4 to 6 quarts of shrimp. This depends on where you keep the cart and the water temperature. If at all possible, the cart should be left where a running tide will flow thru the cart. Under favorable conditions the shrimp could live up to 2 weeks. Otherwise, overnight might be the best expected. Also keep a lock on it. Someone helping themselves to a quart or so is not unusual around a dock that sees a lot of action. Now that you have a holding pen, you need a light portable type box to contain the shrimp while catching them. The perfect holder was an ole Cutty Sark scotch case. Before cardboard, the scotch came imported in wooden boxes. All you needed to do was knock out the bottom and cover with ¼ inch wire mesh. Some wines still come in wooden cases. (A couple of months were needed for preparing the old Cutty Sark case) Four holes had to be drilled into the box to allow for a rope for lifting and towing. While catching the shrimp, the box would be towed behind (with great care so as not to spill) or best, placed, floating in shallow water.

The shrimp net is a 4 foot section of minnow siene. Nylon preferred. Many catalogs carry bait sienes by the foot. Buy enough for building two nets. I have seen nylon laundry bags that work very well when sewn together. The width of the net depends on the strength and the size of the man who uses it. These small shrimp nets are called 'push nets.' The ends of the net are lashed to a broomstick, or bamboo stick. The sticks are held one in each hand and the net is pushed ahead of you. Modifications to the net are a must and vary to the individual. More width at the bottom is a standard arrangement. Experience will soon show you how to work the net.

The best time to fish is low tide. Shrimp favor pilings, under floating docks, under moored boats, along bulkheads, sunken debris and most any underwater obstruction. Also, along marsh banks, small creeks and drains in the meadows and amongst weeded areas. The latter is hardest as it requires a lot of net cleaning to pick out the shrimp.

There are two types of shrimp that you will catch. Grass shrimp and sand shrimp. Actually, you will net very few sand shrimp. The difference is obvious. Grass shrimp are clear in color (wear polaroids when shrimping) while the sand shrimp is blotchy brown and often slightly larger. Sand shrimp make a good bait but are a poor chum. Unlike the grass shrimp which pushes for the bottom when released and thereby covering the depths and finding fish, the sand shrimp stay on top.

When going fishing the big shrimp cart should be taken along with you. Make sure it is kept out of the wind in

transit, otherwise you will dry the shrimp and kill them. A small box, about the size of a cigar box, with a wire mesh bottom is handy for holding the shrimp on board while fishing. Take several handfuls of shrimp from the big cart, place them in the small box. Return the big cart to the water and keep your shrimp lively.

One person should do the chumming. A proper pace and supply is important. The shrimp are thrown over steadily. Not a handful at a time, but 2 or 3 at a time. "Never letting the last one leave your sight," as a rule of thumb or standard should be employed Overchumming will only back the fish up. Too light a flow will not raise their interest. An even steady amount is best.

When fishing into an object, such as a bridge, judging the correct distance to be ahead is very important. Too far up ahead and you can loose control. Yet too close and the shrimp will most likely pass over the fish. What I neglected to mention so far, but should be obvious is that you need tide in which to chum. So the depth of the water and the strength of the tide dictate how far up tide you should be. Once again, experience is the only way to find out.

Remember, the boat must not swing or it will break up the chum line. If you would rather not use two anchors, then tie on directly to the bridge. Tie onto the downtide side and chum into the swirling eddies. This is very effective. The natural shrimp are pushed off the pilings by the tide and washed away. Bass swim in the eddies and gulp them in.

A lot of repositioning of the boat is sometimes involved as you will find a need to move when the tide slacks or gains. Carry long anchor and tie lines to perform your needs.

It is always best to fish the beginning or the end of a tide. You will find at the beginning of the tide you may lose the fish once the tide gets hooked up. To fish the end of the tide, be sure to arrive at your spot while the tide is still pushing and chum into the slack period. chances are that the fish will take hold as the tide begins to ease. On the slack water change positons or move to another spot.

As you can now begin to see, for the guy who wants to do a casual days fishing, the preparations are endless. Building carts and boxes, making nets, pushing a net miles for a couple of quarts of shrimp, double anchors, long lines and a possible cardiac arrest. Sounds like you have to be a carpenter who can run the 4 minute mile. Well not so, not as bad as all that. The biggest problem, and one that you'll not be able to do much about, is boat traffic. You can sit and chum for hours without a bite and never be bothered. As soon as you raise that first fish a water skier will run over your chum line wide open. Or the competition will close in without showing any respect. It seems to never fail. All is not black. Somedays you will be left alone with a solid school of fish in the chum line pushing the shrimp to the top and allowing the terns to feed on them. That is when you know you have fish behind you. When the birds are working. It sure is sweet to have a school of bass take out the slack in your line every time back. It makes it all worth while.

It has been my experience that the spring is the best time of year for this fishing. And, for a chance, day light hours. Once was, in Jamaica Bay, the main body of bass would show every year within a three day period. April the 22nd, the 23rd or the 24th. This time of year the shrimp are usually the ticket. Cold water aids in keeping them alive. When you see the terns feeding on the down tide side of the bridge one day while out flounder fishing, you know the bass have arrived. You can tell when they are feeding on shrimp easily enough. You are unable to see anything in the bird's beak when he lifts off the water. Because of the size of the bait, this is a difficult time to try and catch a bass with a lure. If you cannot see the bait in the terns mouth, you will not catch the bass. Keep the time in mind. May and June are the two best months. After that the bays heat up and shrimp can be very scarce.

Before going into tackle I would like to mention more on other species of fish that take shrimp. Many years back when Peconic was big on weakfish, the most widely used method was chumming with grass shrimp. The only difference here is that the shrimp was not used for bait. Instead, sandworms were the offering. Why the shrimp wasn't used for bait, I cannot understand. Once though, I did put a live snapper on the hook and slipped it back into the chum line and pulled a big bass out from under the bridge. I took 3 good size fish, one after another, where I couldn't raise a bite with the shrimp.

Peconic Bay was chummed so heavily and fished hard, that the local waters were unable to supply the demand for shrimp. A small seaplane used to make the run between Jamaica Bay and Peconic Bay loaded with shrimp. Of course, this was after Jamaica Bay lost its weakfish but still had an abundance of shrimp. The shrimp were needed to catch the weakfish.

I do not believe weakfish respond to clam bellies. At least I have never taken any clam chumming. One night in particular, I was standing on a dock in Montauk where there was a good flow of tide. A big school of nice size weakfish were all around the dock. Made visible by several lights. I had a can of clam chum and began working it into the tide. Nothing. As soon as I switched to a lure, I was able to pick away.

converse

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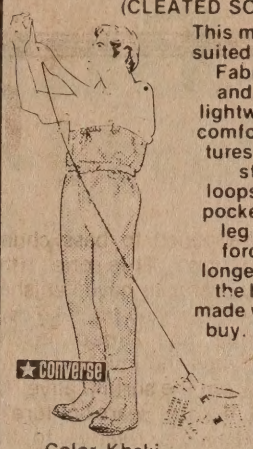

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Once Upon A Bunker-Bass

Part I-Western Sound

by Dr. William A. Muller

Once upon a time, not too long ago, there were no big moss bunker—at least too few to be of any value to the fisherman. There were eels, and eelskin plugs, and mackerel. Now, the lads who used these baits appreciated the precise and delicate methods and applications that would produce big bass. These were techniques that were not easily mastered and so most of the fish went to the local sharpies who took the fish with not another soul knowing about it.

Time changes many things and in time, the mackerel schools began thinning out in the sound and the fish seemed to become shy of the plugs. Few anglers realized that the harbors had become glutted with big bunker. Nonetheless, some did because large scattered catches of cow bass were rumored about in the smoke filled back rooms of tackle stores.

Inevitably, the word leaked out to all the regulars and through the press the following season. Everybody got into the act, for here was a real chance to get a big bass without complicated skills and techniques to cloud success.

"My husband never caught a bass in his life before last night, and yesterday he caught a 51 pound striper."

"How did he catch it lady?"

"He snagged a bunker from a school near Cooper's Bluff. His line tangled, so he had to let the bunker swim while he straightened out the mess. When he reeled in the loose line, he was suddenly fighting this huge fish. Boy, was he happy!"

So, the stories come to us, year after year. The names and places change, but the theme is the same.

It all starts sometime in May, usually towards the end of the month. The action builds to a peak in mid-June and fades, usually to a trickle by early July. This is ideal season for this fishing, because the weather is usually pleasant and winds can be light or calm for days at a time. The drifts are slow and easy.

TACKLE:

The tackle is a matter of individual choice, although conventional equipment is a lot easier to use. I think that a 6 or 7 foot medium action boat rod with any 3/0 reel is ideal. Fill the reel with twenty pound test mono so that you can "sock-up" the drag when it becomes necessary in rock infested waters, narrow channels, or when heavy traffic inhibits light drag approaches. Most "bunker-dunkin" specialists recommend a 3-5 foot, 30-50 pound test monofilament leader attached to the main line via a small (50 pound test) black barrel swivel. A treble hook is secured to the leader by means of either a Polimar knot or improved clinch knot. The size of the treble varies from fisherman to fisherman, but I believe that anything smaller than a 3/0 treble hook is too small, and I have found that 5/0 is best.

Some fishermen like to use a "stinger". This is an additional 5/0 or 7/0 short shanked hook attached to the treble hook by means of a 3-4 inch piece of heavy mono. The hook should reach the base of the tail of the bunker and is secured by means of a thin black rubberband!

AREAS TO FISH:

The entire sound becomes hot for big bass in June, so no matter where you live on Long Island, you're just minutes away from cow country.

In the western sound the favored spots are Hart's Island, Barker's Point, Prospect Point, and Motts Point. Sometimes, bunker will also pull big fish out of the waters near the light at Sands Point, but catches are not consistent.

The best tide at Barker's seems to be the first 3 or 4 hours of the incoming water, while at Prospect, the boys fish right out in front around high water and on the east side during the dropping tide.

The east shore of Hempstead Harbor produces well too. Any of the rock piles and coves hold big fish, and favorite spots like Maxwell's are always worth a try.

The Centre Island Reef is a large expanse of shoal water and the bass really take to the place. One of my favorite spots is Rocky Point, which is located at the end of the concrete wall, a little east of Bayville Beach. I have encountered many bass here and they have responded to skin plugs as well as bunker. Nudge your boat in close among the rocks at low tide and fish the incoming water. When the fish are not responding close to the beach, you'll frequently find that they are cooperating at the outside edge of the reef where the water drops off sharply.

The bass hang along the drop-off waiting for some helpless creature to wander to its doom.

Each spring you'll hear and read about Cooper's Bluff. This point of land is east-northeast of the Sewanaka Yacht Clut, and separates Oyster Bay from Coldspring Harbor. You can usually find the bunker around the black buoy at the mouth of the harbor at dawn and then it is only a short ride back to the bluff.

You should become familiar with several places in a given area, because the bass do not hang out in the same haunts everyday. The successful fisherman hunts the bass from spot to spot, within the span of a known productive tidal period.

WHERE TO FISH:

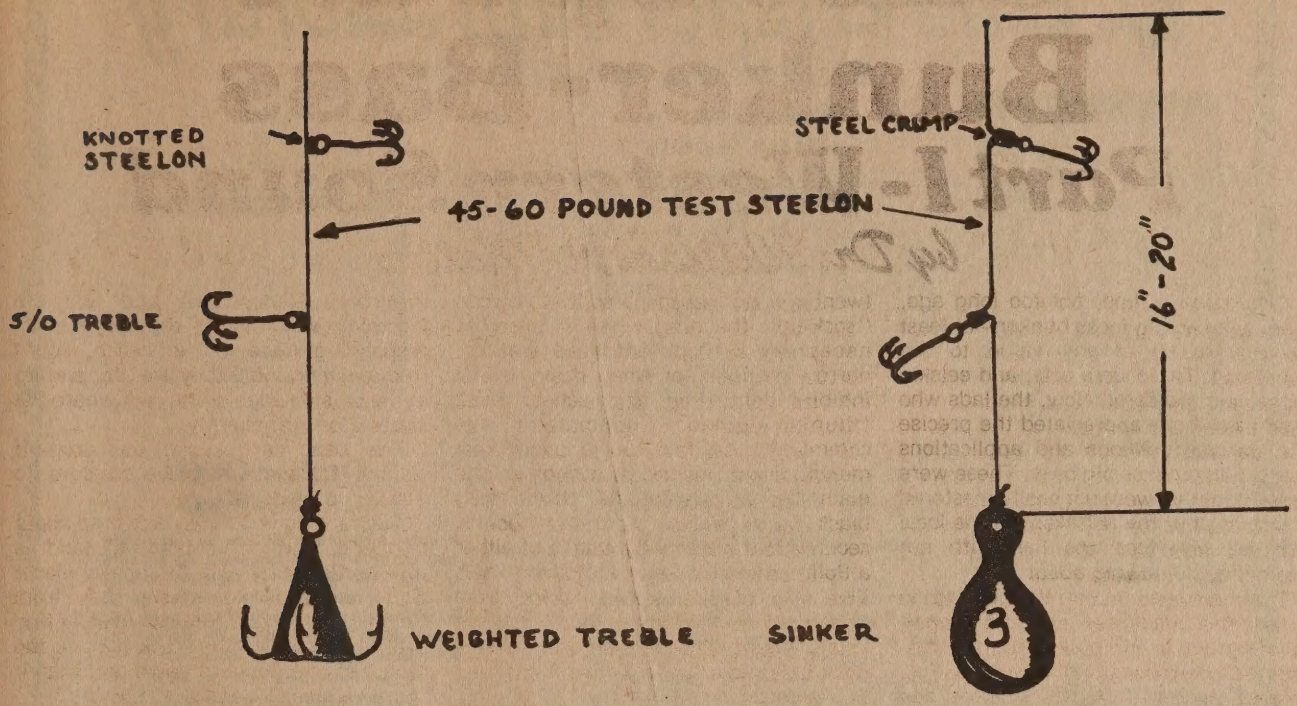
Incidentally, it should be remembered that the bass, unlike bluefish, usually do not hang out under or around the bunker schools. Instead, the stripers prefer to lurk in their usual haunts and wait for whatever tasty morsels wander by. Thus, the bunkers are found at first light, usually at the entrances to the harbors, perhaps pushed to the surface by the vanguard of bluefish schools still several weeks away.

GETTING THE BAIT:

Most anglers are on the bunker grounds before the first rays of light angle over the eastern sky. The bait is snagged with 7/0 or 9/0 weighted treble hooks. The chances of snagging a baitfish is increased if several 5/0 trebles are attached at 10 inch intervals from the weighted hook by means of steel crimps or tied on with the steelon leader.

Several techniques are successful when snagging bunker. The most commonly observed style is a simple toss of the snagging rig into the school of bait and then a "herky-jerky" retrieve. Perhaps a less tiring approach is equally successful. Throw the rig into the massing bait and begin a steady quick

SNAGGING TREES



retrieve. When a bunker bumps the rig, lift the rod quickly.

Keep 4-6 bunker either in the live bait wells, aerated onboard tanks, or perforated 50 gallon plastic garbage pails hung over the side of the boat, supported by an inner tube.

Many people make the mistake of keeping too many bunker snagged. However, some of the baitfish will bleed too profusely and will die quickly, even in well oxygenated water. The blood and waste products may hasten the death of the other bunker in the tank. Bunker which are snagged in the head are in the best condition. Save badly wounded bunker for "chunk" fishing later in the season.

If a fisherman can only gather 2 or 3 healthy baitfish before the sun makes too much of an impression on the sky, so be it! Better to have only a few bunker in good condition than a bait well stuffed with dead or dying fish.

Another moment of truth comes next. You must have the self-control to get your—censored—out of there. The bass usually bite best before 9 o'clock and on overcast days you might expect the good fishing to last 'till 10 o'clock. That's not to say that a few big fish aren't taken in the middle of bright days.

Next week in Part II, we'll review the productive spots from Lloyd Neck to Orient Point.

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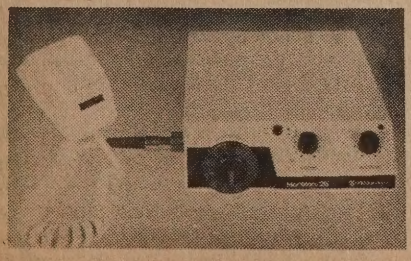

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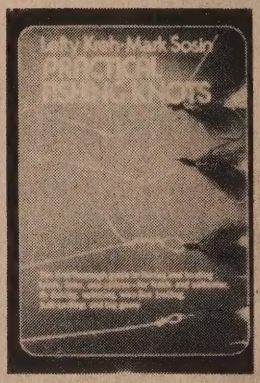

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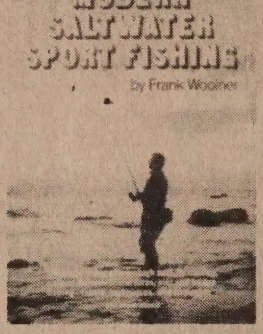

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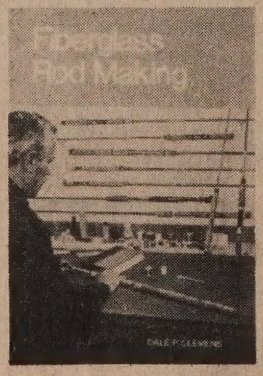

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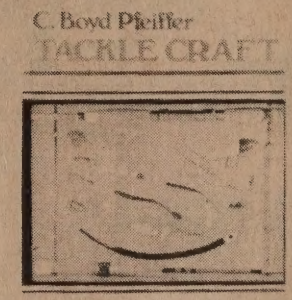

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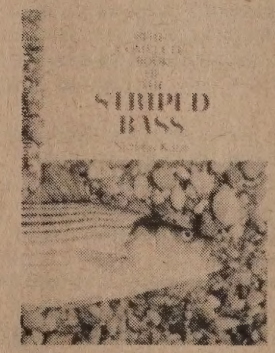

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Filleting Mackerel

by Henry Schaefer

Next to fresh water smelts which can be fried as is and eaten head, bones and viscera, no other fish are easier to clean than Boston Mackerel. Yet every spring we watch fishermen making a big job out of the process, usually cutting off the heads first, then slitting the bellies to remove the contents and then amputating the tails.

All it really takes to clean a mackerel are two deft swipes of a sharp knife, with time out to remove the roe if that is present, between the cuts.

Living as I do within a short distance of the big pond, I prefer to fillet mackerel in the back yard because the discarded heads, bones and viscera are excellent fertilizer to grow tomato plants six feet tall.

If you don't grow a garden you may be able to clean the catch right on the boat and take home only the fillets and roe, each in plastic bags. It should not take more than a half hour to process a fair sized sack of fish.

With the mackerel on a cutting board and flat on its side start the first cut just aft of the pectoral fin down to the bone and thence back toward the tail. Take care not to rupture the roe sac so watch for the first sign of its pink presence. If all you detect inside is white the fish is a male so you don't have to be careful.

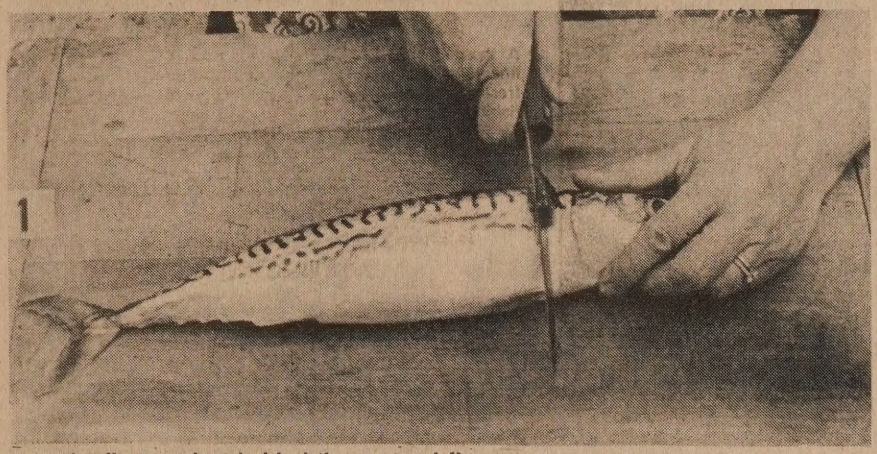
You don't have to be careful unless you plan on using the male reproductive sac too. Some people do although in our household we stick with the fillets and the roe.

Mackerel roe is eminently superior to shad roe because for one thing, you get it for nothing. The roe should be wrapped in plastic in breakfast sized servings and frozen. If frozen properly after catching the roe will remain in pristine condition for six months at least.

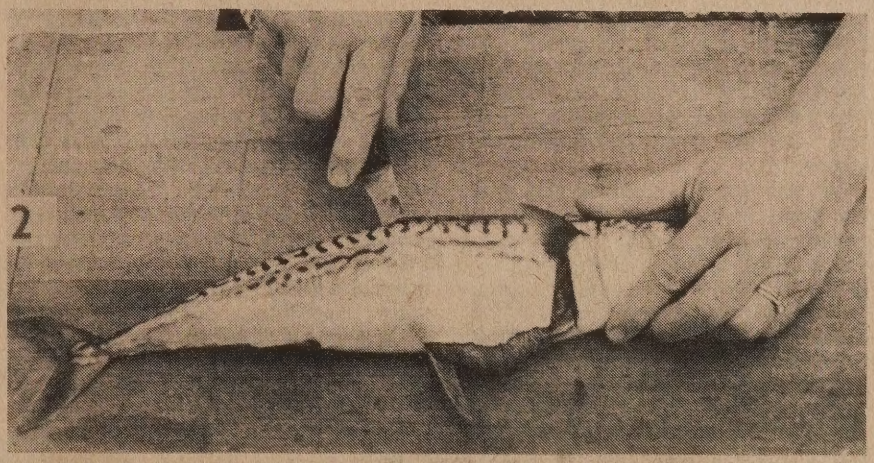
Lightly floured and fried in butter, margarine or bacon fat mackerel roe can keep you in breakfast food as long as your supply lasts.

Mackerel flesh is oily and despite the prompt freezing, tends to become too strong for most palates after several months. After that length of time it becomes pet food in our household. The dogs thrive on it. They don't mind the strong taste.

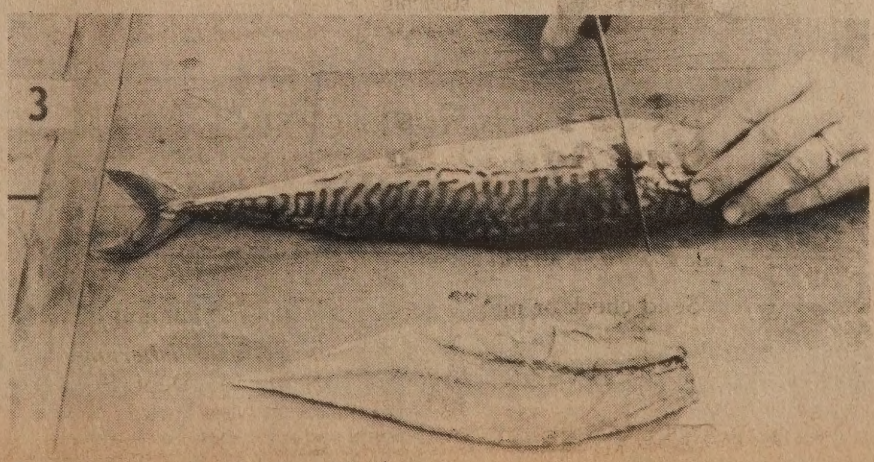
Mackerel fillets are excellent bait for striped bass, bluefish, fluke, whiting, ling and sea bass. To make the job of cutting proper baits much easier invest in a pair of shears as well as a knife. The shears will save you time and money.



Start the first cut just behind the pectoral fin.

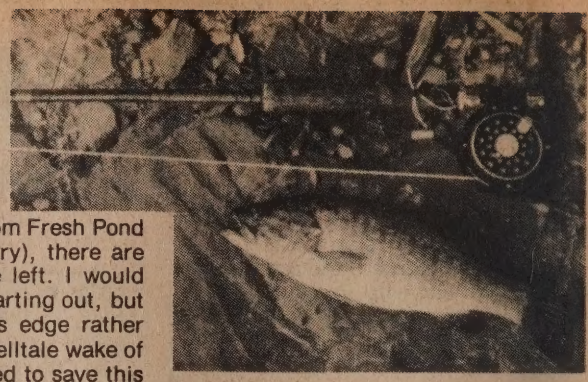


Slice along the bone being careful not to rupture the roe.



Repeat on opposite side. First fillet is in foreground.

Shelter Island Smallmouth



by Ron Miller

I stripped line from the reel, false casting to get line out and over the break in the lilly pads. Satisfied with the distance, I allowed the little black bug to settle on the pond with an insignificant plop. I was prepared to wait until the ripples subsided before moving the popping plug, but Mr. Bass had other ideas. He came crashing up from the shallow bottom to seize the popper before it had settled, and to get the surprise of his life. Realizing that he had caught a free meal at fatal expense, the smallmouth began a series of acrobatics that would shame an Olympic gymnast. He cartwheeled, somersaulted and tail-walked all over that corner of the pond for nearly five minutes before he became tired enough for me to bring him to net. This was my first smallmouth bass, and it was caught practically in our own back yard. I was going to say right on Long Island, but that would be a slight misnomer. Shelter Island was the former home of this beautiful two pound bronzeback.

We read and hear many stories about the amazing battle tactics of the smallmouth bass, but the locale of his battleground has often been too distant for the Long Island freshwater fisherman to consider for other than a vacation trip. Due to stocking, we have the little bronze battler on the Eastern end of our home base. Living in Ronkonkoma, Shelter Island is little more than an hour's drive, with a short ferry ride (to make the trip interesting for my wife and daughter who I dragged out of bed at an ungodly hour). I had heard of the presence of smallmouth bass on Shelter Island and decided to make a scouting expedition to Fresh Pond to check out the possibilities before planning an all out attack on Mr. Smallmouth.

Fresh Pond, located on the southern end of the island is ideal habitat for smallmouth bass (or his largemouth cousin). It is a smallish pond with a deep center and varied shoreline characteristics that provide excellent habitat and spell home to the most discriminating of the species. I neglected to make a photographic record of the trip other than that of the battler mentioned at the start of this story, but I'll try to give you a word description of this pond, and I'm sure you will see why this is an excellent but tough piece of water.

On entering the pond from Fresh Pond Road (the only public entry), there are lilly pads in a cove to the left. I would have to cast to these on starting out, but we approached the waters edge rather noisily, and I noticed the telltale wake of a spooked fish, so I decided to save this for the finish. Following the shoreline in a clockwise pattern there are fallen trees along the shore leading to another cove at the southernmost part which at one time must have had a dock or boathouse leading out nearly fifty feet from shore. The pilings are there as stickups into about twenty feet of water. Continuing around the shore there are shady overhanging branches keeping a cool spot for Mr. Bass and his ubiquitous cousin the pugnacious bluegill. Further along, the shallows at the western end of the pond are rocky, lilly padded and then begin to drop off sharply. This is where I made my first acquaintance with Mr. Smallmouth. The northern shore is heavily graveled, with large rocks and an occasional fallen tree. The northeastern corner is shady for most of the day, with a few small boats moored or tied to the eastern shore, which returns us to the entry point. Using my fifty foot anchor line as a depth sounder, I estimate the center of the pond to be at least forty five feet deep. Additional soundings taken at varying positions around the lake helped me to envision a funnel shaped hole with water coming up from the bottom (apparently springs, since there is no obvious inlet or outlet) to provide a cool and comfortable home for these bass. The water is clear and clean, and the bottom can be seen through more then ten feet of water. This has one obvious drawback. If you can see the bass, he can sure see you. Nothing can be as frustrating as watching "Your" fish swim around before your eyes blithely ignoring every lure or bait you put before him.

We arrived at the pond a little after sun-up, put the canoe in, and with my reluctant crew paddled toward the center to take a look at all points and scout the most likely looking starting place. As I mentioned earlier, this was my first trip to Fresh Pond, and I like to spend a little time to look over the territory first rather than to waste time in a dead or unproductive area. I find that a little time spent this way provides a lot more productive fishing time when you get down to business (and it helps to pacify the girls by taking them for a canoe ride before settling down to what you really came for). The survey paid off again on this trip. As we paddled across the pond I noticed some good surface activity in the northwest corner. Making a mental note of second and third choices that looked so damned bassy it was unbelievable we paddled to the northwest corner. Finding the shallow bottom coming up fast, we stopped the canoe as quietly as a pair of Indians (with two squaws in the boat that was an accomplishment!). There was no breeze, and the surface was as smooth as glass, so we avoided the possible noise of dropping an anchor. Gentle male chauvinist that I am, I let my family wait while I stood to make my first cast with the flyrod. When the popper hit the water, it exploded with the antics of the tough little two pounder at the beginning of this story. The way that fish ran all over the place it turned out to be a good thing that I made the girls wait. We would have had one helluva mess of tangled line to play with.

After landing this bass and enjoying the admiring oohs and ahs of my own personal fan club, I graciously armed my ladies with their favorite tackle, consisting of spincasting rods loaded with nightcrawlers and bobbers. On her first cast, my wife Peggy hooked a little bluegill and my daughter Cathy cheered her on, banging her dainty little hand on the gunwale of the aluminum canoe with a happy beat. I thought of using the paddle for other than it's intended purpose, but with my luck the judge wouldn't be a fisherman, so I gritted my teeth and tried another cast. Scanning the lilly pad, I noticed a little movement just to the left of the spot recently vacated by my first fish, and began to cast to the pads again using the same black bug. The water didn't erupt this time. There was just the characteristic noisy-kiss-smack sound of a big bluegill taking the black spider. I set the hook and literally dragged him out of the weeds to let him continue the fight in open water. His splashing broadside runs in the shallow water were a credit to his breed, as he gave the light tippet a good workout. It was a good bluegill, just under nine inches, with a bright orange belly. When they are as big as this little

bull was, they can be tough fighters on any light tackle.

It was time to move to spot number two, as the sun was rapidly climbing into the sky on this beautiful bright day (a day better made for a beach picnic than fishing so my ladies mentioned, numerous times), so we moved to the shady southern shore and the stickups. Here we dropped anchor in twenty feet of water, and the girls started casting their floating worms toward the center of the pond. The bluegills and bait stealing yellow perch were there too, in sizes that made them more of a nuisance than worth catching, but the ladies had fun. Still using the flyrod, I cast the popper as close to the stickups as I dared, hoping that I might get lucky, and be able to keep the fish from tangling my line on the pilings. Later, closer inspection showed cross braces three or four feet below the surface.

I got lucky! As he came up from the depths into the clearer water I saw him. Not a big fish, but an interested one. As he got closer to the bug, I moved the rod tip ever so slightly. That was all it took. That little bit of life stirred the bass from caution to decisive action. This was food, and he meant to have it! With a thrust of his tail, he came shooting up, mouth open to grab the struggling spider. I wish they were all this easy. When you see them coming, you know exactly when to set the hook, or in this case, when not to. This little guy did it all on his own. He broke the surface, carrying the bug with him as he leaped to twice his own length above the water before somersaulting downward. I just took up slack and he did the rest, sinking the hook tightly around the hard bone of his lower jaw. (Let me say here dear readers, that I was nowhere near as calm as I make this sound. It must have been awe that made me behave in such a practiced manner.) After another spectacular display of acrobatics that was in no way less than the show his two pound cousin had given us, I brought him alongside the canoe, removed the hook and released the ten inch smallmouth to grow another year.

We tried several other spots, but it had gotten so bright that it was obvious the fish had headed for deeper water. My popping bugs and floating fly line would have little use over fifty feet of water, so I switched to a spinning rod and my favorite lure, a black wiggle-snake on a stand-up jig head. I had hits which I knew were bass by the telltale tap-tap as I retrieved line. I just wasn't quick enough to strike these quick but moody cousins of the slower and more deliberate largemouth. By the time I had received the tapping signal on the surface, the smallmouth had already rejected the lure as either inedible or just plain dangerous to life and fin.

After about three hours of just two smallmouth bass and what seemed like thirty thousand undersized bluegills (all of 'em caught on just two dozen nightcrawlers) I began to get the message. The perch and bluegills are small because they don't get a chance to get much bigger. The bass eat them. Those that do escape the bass live to a ripe old age to provide more little fish for the bass to eat, until some guy with a flyrod comes along and hauls them out from under the lillypads. I also got the message from my ladies. By this time, the sun was high in a clear blue morning sky, and it was too nice a day to waste fishing (according to them, for the thousandth time), so we left the pond for a beach picnic.

Some pointers for those of you interested in giving the Fresh Pond smallmouth a try. Shelter Island can be reached via ferry from either the North or South forks of Long Island. The ferry fee is nominal, and they run often enough so there is just a short wait if you miss one. Stop at the police station on the Island before going anywhere to fish, whether for smallmouth or striped bass. Identifying yourself to the local constabular can save you the trouble of a ten dollar parking ticket (don't ask how I found out about this!), and might even get you a tip to the right beach if your plans are for stripers.

Shelter Island is great for the whole family. Just leave them on one of the beaches while you go fishing and you'll all have a great time. I'm making plans with my regular fishing buddy for the next trip. It will be on a cloudy, overcast, maybe drizzling, BUT BEAUTIFUL morning...maybe this weekend.

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BRIDGE FISHING FOR SPRING BLACKFISH

by John V. Konior

It's about that time of the year to switch gears. You have by now no doubt filled your freezer to the brim with tasty flounder. While the flounder will still be around for the next couple of months other species will begin to upstage them. One of these enchroachers to the flounder's domain is the spunky blackfish.

Beginning in May and extending through June the blackfish makes his appearance in south shore waters. Unlike Long Island Sound the blackfish doesn't get extensive attention on the south shore. I believe the reason for this is that blackfish are not as abundant or as sizeable as those caught on the north shore where feeding grounds are more prevalent. This is to say that blackfish enjoy rocky bottoms where their favorite baits abound. On the south shore you won't find too much natural rocky bottom, the exceptions being the rock jetties at inlets, artificial reefs, ocean wrecks, and last but not least bridges.

If you narrow down your view to a particular area you would soon discover quite a few bridges which link the mainland and Long Beach—Point Lookout with Jones Beach. In fact, if you bother to count them, you would find nine bridges; three along the Wantagh Parkway, three along the Meadowbrook Parkway, and three from the Jones Beach toll booths to Long Beach—Point Lookout. To a degree each of these bridges harbor blackfish, but your best bet in my opinion is to fish the second Wantagh Bridge, the third (Southern most) Meadowbrook Bridge, the third (Southern most) Wantagh Bridge and the second Meadowbrook bridge (adjacent to Fundy Bay) in that order of preference.

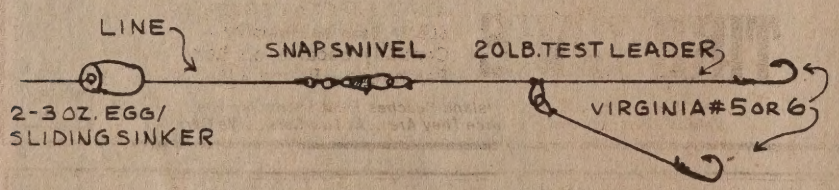
While admitting that the blackfish you will catch are not monsters, it's not unusual to occasionally pick up a few in the 6-8 pound range. Most of the fish you'll catch will average 2 pounds, and incidentally I wouldn't look down my nose at blackfish that size. For those among you who have had experience catching blackfish you already know that a blackfish regardless of size can put up quite a battle, particularly on light tackle. The blackfish will never win a beauty contest, far from it with its stocky shape and buck teeth. But it's these peculiar characteristics which nature has endowed that makes the blackfish a tough customer.

The blackfish is a bottom feeder, rarely rising more than foot or two off the bottom. In addition, blackfish will tend to herd themselves over a particular piece of bottom, around a piling or near a concrete abutment. As such you could be fishing a few feet away and not catch a thing. The key to bridge fishing for blackfish is then to fish as closely as possible to pilings or bridge abutments, but exercising some common sense at the same time. By common sense I mean be careful when tying up or anchoring. There's generally quite a bit of boat traffic around the bridges and wakes from passing boats could swing your boat against the pilings or abutments. So adjust for this possibility by providing adequate cushioning or anchor at a point where swinging will not cause you to slam into these unyielding structures. Never anchor in the main bridge channel or tie across a bridge passageway or you are just asking for trouble, or looking for some belligerent language from other boaters. So much for the lecture.

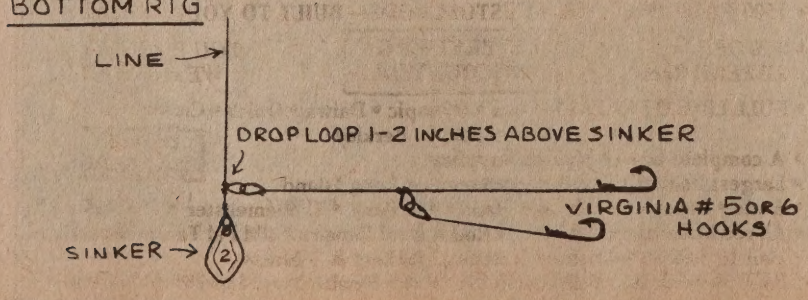
Blackfish are primarily crustacean/mollusk feeders. They thoroughly enjoy the likes of fiddler crabs, green crabs,

BLACKFISH RIGS

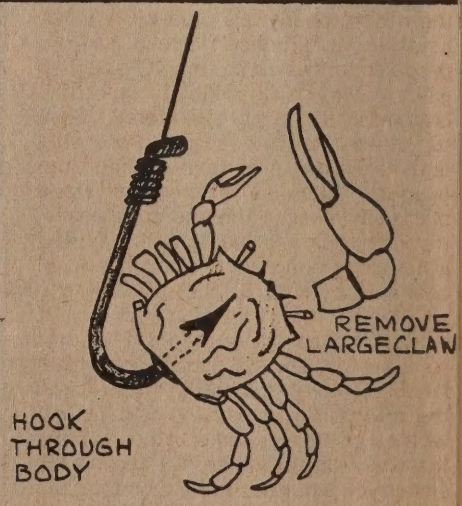
FLORIDA RIG



BOTTOM RIG



FIDDLER CRAB HOOK UP



MAKE SURE BARB OF HOOK IS PROTRUDING

clams, mussels, barnacles, but will also take a sand or bloodworm. My personal preference is fiddler crabs, particularly the China Back variety which is imported from Florida, when you can get them. However, I also bring a supply of skimmer clams and worms along with the knowledge that these baits may not be as effective because of the ease in which a blackfish can steal your bait without your knowing it, and the pesty bergall which frequently accompany the blackfish.

As I mentioned, blackfish are particularly adept at stealing bait. It takes some experience to acquire the knack of hooking them. When using fiddler crabs, for example, remove the large claw, insert the hook through the bottom shell and penetrate the top shell making sure the barb is protruding. By using this method you'll increase your chances of hooking the blackfish. The general rule in hooking blackfish is to wait for a "solid" tug usually preceeded by a few taps. If you try to set the hook when you get the "taps" you'll just pull the bait away. On the other hand, if you wait too long, you'll reel up empty hooks. It's a bit difficult to describe and what it amounts to is that you'll just have to acquire the knack through experience. I've often hooked blackfish when they're biting like flounders. The hit, under these circumstances, resembles a feeling that the fish is picking up the bait off the bottom (it's almost like a sixth sense). Please excuse my description of hooking methods which is beginning to appear as something mystical. It's really not, as on some days the blackfish will hit hard and practically hook itself. Because of the blackfish's tough lips it's important that when you decide to set the hook, set it hard to insure penetration. Once you set the hook properly it's unlikely that the blackfish will unhook itself, but be prepared for quite a battle. The blackfish will try with all its might to reach the bottom so the fight will literally be a tug-of-war. For this reason when using light tackle make sure to set the drag properly because a medium sized blackfish will snap the line quite easily. If you are going to use light tackle bring a net along and net the fish instead of hauling it overboard.

When bridge fishing for blacks, I prefer to use light/medium weight spinning tackle with 12 pound test mono. Although currents are often swift around the bridges I can usually hold bottom with a 2 or 3 ounce sinker. Keep in mind that the heavier the line, the heavier the sinker you will need to hold bottom and you must be on the bottom to catch blackfish. Because of the importance of "feel", I also prefer to use a Florida rig, briefly, is made up from a sliding egg sinker and a snap swivel; the snelled hooks are then attached to the snap swivel. This rig allows you to "feel" the bite without interference from the sinker and serves a double purpose in that when the blackfish bites, it doesn't feel the weight of the sinker. Another acceptable rig is the standard bottom rig using two hooks in tandem, tied one to two inches above the sinker.

A word or two about hook patterns and sizes. I've tried various patterns and sizes, but after all my experimenting came back to the blackfish standard, the Virginia pattern. The Virginia pattern was especially designed for blackfish and does the job. Its only disadvantage is that it's only "blued" and is very corrosion prone so you can only use it once, or at best twice. Keep in mind, however, that with any hooks, they are the business end of your tackle (regardless of whatever or however expensive your other tackle may be). Hooks, such as, are relatively inexpensive so don't be "penny wise and pound foolish." Although packaged pre-snelled, I prefer to snell my own hooks using stiff 20 pound test leader monofilament. I also like to use two hooks (one hook attached via a leader to the other hook's leader through a drop loop). The hooks are attached directly to the snap swivel of the Florida rig. Because south shore blackfish are generally small (2-3 lbs.) I prefer Virginia size 5 or 6. These hooks will also handle the larger fish.

Before concluding, it's worth mentioning that blackfish are fine for eating especially when baked. Because the blackfish's skin is so tough, you should skin it. Blackfish baked in butter with a touch of lemon juice is quite a meal. The flesh is firm and white with a flavor resembling the shellfish which the black is so fond of.

So for a change of pace try south shore spring blackfishing around the bridges.

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Nick Ruppino, Howie Reiff and Larry Speilberg with 38 fluke caught May 16 ranging from 2½ to 4½ lbs. Photo courtesy of Tadsen Fishing Station and Marina.

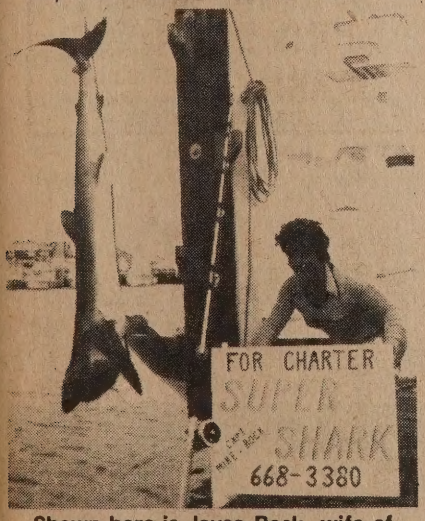
SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

The inshore fishing at Montauk is starting to look up and all signs point to an excellent Memorial Day Weekend for fishing with several species for the angler to choose from. Large seabass have moved into the Frisbee and Cartwright Grounds and outer Shagwong. Fluke have started moving into the North Rips. Whiting are plentiful all over the area including the bell buoy right in front of the jetties. Good flounder fishing at Rocky Point and along Gin Beach and in Montauk Lake itself. Codfishing has been hot and cold in the Block Island area with many of the open boats now changing to fluke or sea bass schedules. Striped bass have been taken trolling off the point and the spring run is expected to start any day now, more than likely by the time this report is read.

Capt. George McTurk of the charterboat **Sportfisher** was the first to score with the striped bass on Tuesday. Trolling umbrella rigs around Great Eastern, 13 bass were taken 8 to 25 lbs. The average fish was about 12 lbs. and two were in the 25 lb. class. There are loads of sandeels and tinker mackerel in the water. Three small blues were also taken Tuesday, and four were taken on Saturday. Best tide for the bass is the incoming. George told us that he still has a few open dates for charters during the spring run of striped bas.

Capt. John DeMaio of the charterboat



Shown here is Joyce Bock, wife of Capt. Mike Bock with the first shark caught in 1976 aboard the charter boat "Super Shark".

Shown here are the seabass caught on May 16 aboard the Little Bear out of Montauk.

Vivienne reported taking two bass in the mid-twenties on diamond jigs earlier in the week. High winds during the later part of the week held fishing down to a minimum.

Capt. Brad Glas of the **Helen II** initiated the fluke season on Sunday with excellent results. Fishing the North Rips, plenty of fluke up to 4½ lbs. were taken with more than 9 out of 10 fish keepers. Medium size seabass are also mixed in with the fluke, so there's plenty of action. The Helen II will be sailing open for fluke during Memorial Day Weekend and then will be sailing open for the flatties on weekdays only during the month of June.

Capt. Ron Grandinetti of the charterboat **Julie II** had three members of the Skunked Again Fishing Club, headed by Arthur Morris of Brooklyn, were aboard on Saturday and took 310 lbs. of sea bass up to 3¾ lbs. and 15 blackfish up to 9½ lbs. One fluke was also taken. Fishing was at Inner and Outer Frisbee and Inner Cartwright. On Sunday Capt. Ron and friend Al Baron of Brooklyn caught 175 lbs. of sea bass in the same area.

Captain Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** reported that the codfishing has slowed down quite a bit in the Block Island area so he is switching over to sea bass. The sea bass are in very strong in the Frisbee area and the boats have been doing a real number on them.

Captain Howie Carroll of the **Jigger III** had a group of fishermen from the Merrick Rod and Gun Club out on Sunday and they did very good with the codfish in the Block Island area. Saturday was very poor, however. The **Jigger III** will start fluke fishing on a daily basis this Memorial Day weekend.

Ron D'Albora of the **Gone Fishing Marina** reported excellent sea bass fishing at Outer Shagwong and the Frisbee area. Surfcasters have been picking some bass around dusk at North Bar on Rebels and Redfins. Flounder fishing in the lake remains excellent but the fish are a little smaller now than a few weeks ago.

Captain Frank Braddick of the **Hurry Up** called to tell us that he now can take

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up to 6 passengers for hire on his new boat. He still has a few open dates for spring bass fishing which he is going to start this weekend. During the summer he will be concentrating on sharks, tuna, and marlin offshore.

Captain Dusty of the **Little Bear** reports that both he and Captain Fred of the **Flying Cloud** are doing very well on the sea bass, fishing Frisbees. These are pail filling catches, with sea bass up to 4 pounds.

Captain Whitey Bateman of the **Four Queens** called to say that he has got the boat all prettied up for the season and has installed two new dinettes over the engine humps and that things will be good and comfortable for his charter passengers this season.

Captain Bob of the charterboat **Sea Queen** reports that Saturday he did a fair job on cod up to 35 pounds, but he got many more fish on Sunday, on the final drop of the day which was south of Block Island. Passenger Captain Sy Dymore took the pool with a 40 pound cod along with several others in the 15 to 20 pound range. Mark Stehl of Rosedale took a 24 pound cod and several other fish up to 20 pounds in the late afternoon.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** also reported excellent sea bass fishing. Captain McMann of the charterboat **Marie II** docked at the yacht club, took 30 striped bass up to 8 pounds on Saturday and Sunday trolling umbrella rigs around the point on incoming water. The **Hi-Lee** had over 50 flounder up to 3 pounds off Rocky Point. They also took a porgy and quite a few whiting around the Bell Buoy. The **Bumble Bee** also did very good with flounders up to 4 pounds in Tobaccolot Bay off Gardiner's Island. They also took 10 blowfish, blackfish, and whiting.

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PROMISED LAND

Promised Land Fishing Station reports that the fishing was blown out over the weekend by the weather. Blackfish were mixed with the flounder that were caught and the action takes place on mussels, clams or worms. A couple of weaks, porgies and fluke were taken but they still are to come.

SHINNECOCK

Captain Clark Bellows Jr. of the **Captain Clark Boats** told us that fishing on Saturday was very good for weakfish up to 10 pounds and porgies. Blackfish up to 10 pounds are also mixed in with the catch. On Saturday over 400 porgies were taken. Fishing on Sunday was slower due to the tremendous amount of boat traffic and the high winds which combined to make drifting almost impossible. Clark also told us that he heard that Captain George Porter of the **Brand X** took over 100 bluefish 2 to 12 pounds on Saturday night in the Middle Grounds.

Micky at **Altenkirch's Bait and Tackle** said the fluke fishing was not bad in the canal and Shinnecock Bay. A lot of fluke with less than 50 percent throwbacks are being taken on shiners, sand eels and squid. These are mostly 2 pound fish which are being taken on moving water. At present weaks are spotty. There are plenty of nice sized porgies in Peconic Bay on worms and clams. An occasional striped bass has been taken on tins from the beach. The bay is loaded with sand eels.

HAMPTON BAYS

Bradley's Fishing Station reports good fluke fishing right in front of the station. They are 16 to 18 inches in size and are taken drifting squid, bloodworms or spearing. In the southeast part of the bay at Greenlawns there are plenty of flounder of pretty good size which are hitting bloodworms.

Corr's Fishing Station reports the weakfishing in the Peconic has slowed. Most fish are being taken in the late afternoon using Salty Dogs with squid. Fluke fishing has been excellent in Shinnecock Canal and the East Channel and also in front of the station. Best catches is on live killies, squid and sand eels. Micky says a common days catch is 20 to 30 fish.

MORICHES BAY

Moriches Bait and Tackle reports plenty of fluke of 2 to 5 pounds. The keeper rate runs about 75 percent and are being taken on drifted sand eels and squd combinations. Your best bet is to start at the Coast Guard Station and drift east. Buoy 42 has a fair amount of

Joe Obermeier of Brooklyn with 15 nice fluke to 2½ lbs. The fish were caught by buoy 36 on sand eels and squid. Photo courtesy of Silly Lily Fishing Station.

weakfish taken on Salty Dogs with squid.

Cerullo Brothers Fishing Station reports very good fluke fishing in both the Old and New Cuts. Frank says sand eels and squid combos are best and for some reason live killies are not doing the jog that can be expected of them. Flounder fishing is down with the best area being around buoy 29 using mussel chum and worms.

Silly Lilly Fishing Station reports very good fluke fishing over the weekend on squid, spearing or sand eels, with up to 40 fish per boat. Angler Frank Scharf had 40 keepers, which he took before the wind picked up on Saturday. Flounders are holding up well off the railroad station. Please return the short fluke so that we can catch them next year.

MASTIC BEACH

Gary at **Stiriz's Fishing Station** reports excellent fishing this weekend with fluke from buoys 15 through 24 on squid, spearing, and sand eels. Bucktails also produced, tipped with squid on all tides. Ed Crawford had a 6 pound 3 ounce fluke, Chris Kelly a five pound fifteen ounce fluke and Tina DiPasqualle a 5 lb. 9½ oz. fluke. Bluefish are from buoys 19 to 12 and are taking surge tubes, poppers, and small Hopkins at all times that they are around. Weakfish are being taken from buoys 19 to 10 on Salty Dogs and bucktails with squid in early morning hours best, and only a few during the day. Pete and Henry Gobrick took a 6 pound 7 ounce weak early Saturday morning. Gary says there are lots of blowfish at buoy 19 on squid and worm. Flounder are at the south side of Smith Point Bridge on worms, any tide, but are in pockets. Stripers are being clam chummed and hitting bunker and butterfish baits on the flats at buoy 17. These fish are 3 to 16 pounds and the best catches are from 4 to 6:30 A.M. Jack Kelly and family on Sunday had 73 keeper fluke and 12 blues.

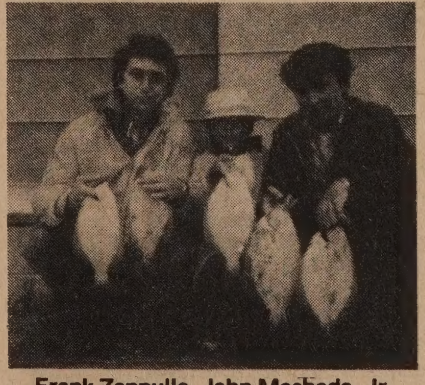
WEST SAYVILLE

South Bay Fishing Station reports weakfishing very good with a lot of big fish drifting between buoys 3 and 19, and between buoys 4 and 5 off Heckscher. Jim Horn took a 9½ pounder on a Salty Dog and others on hi-lo rigs using squid and clams on all moving tides. Marty says the weakfishing has picked up and there is action throughout the day. Fluke at buoy 4 at Heckscher on killies, sand eels, and spearing on the flood. Blues at buoys 4 and 5 on small Hopkins. Salty Dogs are getting torn up. These are 2½ pound class fish. Blowfish are making a good showing between Nichols and Timber Point in 4 to 5 feet of water, all baits.

Young's Fishing Station reports that anglers Ariel Gutierrez and H. Toledo, from N.J., got 37 weaks up to 8½ pounds using green shrimp jigs off buoys 4 and 5 at Heckscher. Fluke and blues are also being caught off Heckscher on sand eels and squid.

OAKBEACH

Hayes at **The Store** reports Hecter ruiz has taken the south shore marlin and Tuna Club contest with a 9 and ¾ pound weakfish. Hey Hecter, can you lend me $500? Fluking is picking up near the bridge at the north side. Blackfishing continues good at the bridges, bulkheads and rock jetties. Hayes has no worms for flounder due to the strike. Weaks are picky, though some are in the back.



Frank Zappulla, John Machado, Jr. and John Machado, Sr. with their catch of 45 flounders many close to 2 lbs. The fish were taken off Haven's Point at the mouth of Seatuck Cove using bloodworms and mussel chum on the outgoing tide. Photo courtesy of Seatuck Cove Marina.

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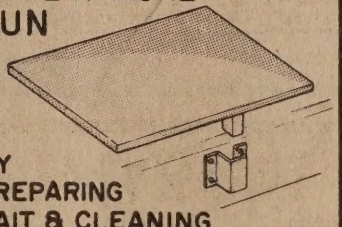

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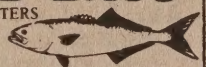

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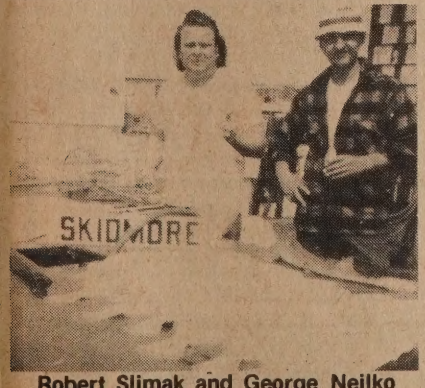


Robert Slimak and George Neilko with 41 keeper fluke up to 5 lbs. caught between bouy 38 and 39 on squid and sand eels. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

Mitchell Rosen, 13, of N. Bellmore with his catch of mackerel taken aboard the Capt. Joseph IV out of Captree. Subscriber Club Photo.

EAST ISLIP

Wet-A-Line Bait and Tackle continues to report of weakfish falling for shrimp chum and rubber shrimp lures at Heckscher. Bluefish are now there also in the buoy 4 area and fluke are at the Coast Guard Station on sand eels and squid.

OAKDALE

Howie's Fishing Station informs us that Rosemary Curtin took an 8 pound 2 ounce weak at buoy 19 on outgoing on a White Twister and won the Oakdale Sportsmen's Club contest for weakfish on Sunday. Also, anglers Ron Gnutti and Walt Czekaj bagged 13 weaks, 6 blues and 2 fluke on red Salty Dogs in West Channel on Saturday. Tom Cavanagh had 10 weakfish, 2 fluke and 2 blues on red Salty Dogs tipped with squid on the Heckscher flats on Saturday.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle reports weakfish at buoy 2 east in the bay. Karl and Paul Greco using pink Pussy cat lures took 35 on Tuesday night. Smokey's has their own weakfish contest running with an 8 pound 11 ounce fish in the lead thus far. Fluke on the Fire Island side of Point 'O Woods on squid and sandeels and a few blowfish and blues at Democrat Point on diamond jigs from boats and the beach.

The **South Shore Marlin and Tuna Club** informs us that Iris Ruiz of Lake Ronkonkoma took the $500 first prize in their Tournament this weekend with a 9 pound 15 ounce weak caught in the Peconics on a pink plastic shrimp. The fish was weighed in at **Altenkirch's**.

CAPTREE

Captain Bob Joseph of the **Captain Joseph Fleet** reported that all boats are now fluking. The fluke fishing has been fair to good. There are a lot of fish around, many of which are small but there are enough keepers to go around. Fish are all over with the areas near the Robert Moses Bridge, Coast Guard Station, Kismet and the State Channel holding a slight edge. Sandeels, squid, killies and strip baits all produce on both sides of the change of the tide.

The **Captain Richie** reported good fluking around the inlet, in the STate Channel, West Island and just about any of the local fluke haunts in the bay. Any tide that produces a good drift is producing fish. There are a lot of small fish but enough keepers to make fishing worthwhile and there is plenty of action. Everyone is going home happy.

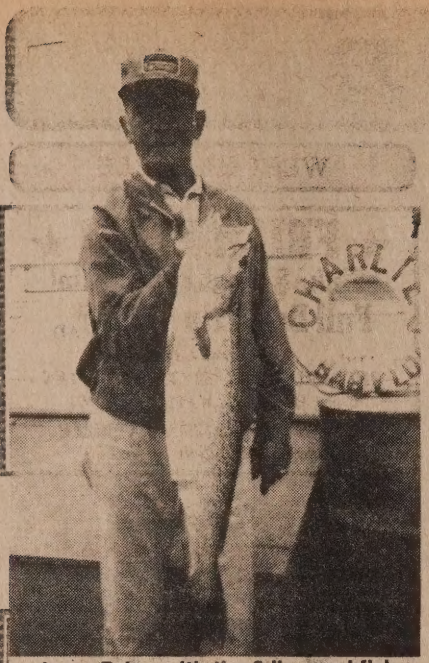
Captain Neil of the **Lady Ann** called to report that the fluking remains excellent and that he had no fewer than 100 keepers per day all week. Best is at the north end of the Moses Bridge, off the Lighthouse and the State Channel. From Jones Inlet to the bridge sandeels are working best, and in the bay and channels, killies and squid are working best. The change of tide provides the most action. Fish are averaging 1½ to 2 pounds.

BABYLON

Charterboat **Flying Dutchman** had 13 people out on Sunday which accounted for 30 fluke which included a good number of throwbacks. The largest was 7 pounds 9 ounces which was weighed at Augie's in Babylon and was taken on a pink shrimp lure dressed with squid. The fish was taken at Heckscher's buoy 2 on an ebbing tide. Another fish of the same size was taken on the "King George". A 3 pound blue was also taken on the pink shrimp with tail.

Hi-Hook Fishing Station reports terriffic catches over the weekend. Blues in Snake Hill and Dickerson's Channel, 2 to 2½ pounds on everything. Fluke up to 5½ pounds were taken in Snake Hill and Dickerson's Channel on sand eels, squid and fluke bellies. Weakfish were taken by angler Ted Kassel to the tune of 30 fat fish to 8¼ pounds chumming with grass shrimp with salty dog lures in East Fox Creek.

Walter at **Babylon Fishing Station** tells of weakfish at buoys 4 and 5 east of the Captree Bridge early in the mornings on Salty Dogs tipped with squid. Fluke at the Coast Guard Station, and Snake Hill Channel on squid, killies, sand eels and shiners. The Sore Thumb still has flounders that still love worms.



Jesse Brieu with the 9 lb. weakfish he caught. Photo courtesy of Charlie's Fishing Station.

LINDENHURST

John at **Charlie's Bait and Tackle** tells of stripers being clam chummed in the State Channel and also trolled on wire with yellow or white ¾ ounce bucktails. Blackfish are still chomping away at the artificial reef, fish up to 5 pounds accepting fiddlers and green crabs. There is great fluking off the construction dock. Frank Said had 8 fluke in 2 hours. This dock according to John, is one mile south of the Fire Island bridge on the F.I. side. The best fluking we are advised, is in the back bays. Flounder at the Sore Thumb on worms on all tides of very good size. Weakfish spotty and should remain that way until we have calmer and warmer weather for a few days straight.

The charterboat **Lazy Day II** reports a ½ dozen fluke per man both Saturday and Sunday in Captain Bob's pet fluking spots. Bob also advises that he has June 5th and the 20th open and calls your attention to his special low weekday rates.

Local bass hound Larry Frank had 3 bass (2 schoolies plus a 15 pounder) on a white bucktail and wire during the week.

The trial runs on the **Bullet** have been completed in the Bahamas and Captain Jay Porter tells us that he found some new wrecks that even the natives didn't know about. He fished one commercially for grouper and red snapper and took 9,000 pounds in one day. As this issues goes to press, the boat is heading north towards its berth at the Anchorage. Jay apologizes to all May customers, but didn't want to sail until everything was perfect. The scanners have been fine tuned to his satisfaction. The maiden voyage of the **Bullet** will be Wednesday June 2nd for tilefish, which is all booked up. The first cod trip is Sunday, June 6th which is also booked solid.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle reports excellent fluking at Fire Island Inlet, the Babylon Cut, the Amityville Cut, West Island and Goose Creek on live killies and sand eels being best. Weaks are very spotty on sand worm and shrimp chum, also on white bucktails, red or white shrimp lures and red Gold Seal bait tails. Unqua Point and Fort Neck Point are producing weaks, sea bass and blows. Several bass have been clam chummed in the State Channel and two larger bass have fallen to live eels. Plenty of blacks at Sloop Channel Bridge on fiddlers and green crabs. With the worm diggers up in Maine now on strike, worm prices may go up in the near future.

SEAFORD

On Saturday the charterboat **Hustler** out of Seaford had the Bellmore Radiator Company of Freeport. They had 37 keeper fluke up to 2½ pounds and also took 9 blues from 2 to 2½ pounds in Jones Inlet on the fluke rigs using squid and sandeels.

Lon Wanser Bait and Tackle reports flounder just west of the Wantagh Draw Bridge on worms and mussels. Fluke are hitting squid, sand eels and killies at Squaw and West Islands, Bass Creek and Sloop Channel. Reports of bass at Gilgo in the State Channel. Some blacks at the bridges.

MERRICK

Nick's Fishing Station reports good fluking in the channels and holes. Ed Batakomly and Dr. Rose of Flushing had 32 keeper fluke from Broad and Haunts Creek on killies and an incoming tide on Saturday. Also, flounder were taken in very good numbers at Merrick Point near the pole on bloodworms. Ask Jimmy for the exact location. Blackfish are good at the bridges and at the Tea Wreck for bigger boats. Lots of good catches now.

CAPTREE

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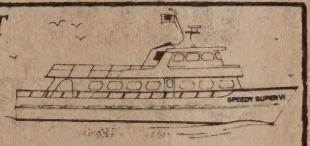

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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Frank's Marina and Fishing Station reports fluke in Swift Creek on spearing and squid and on live killies. Doug McCann fished Jones Inlet and bagged a 3½ pound fluke on squid and sand eels. Blackfishing is very productive at the Meadowbrook bridges on fiddlers, fish up to 4 lbs. Sea bass are hitting clam baits at the Loop Bridge.

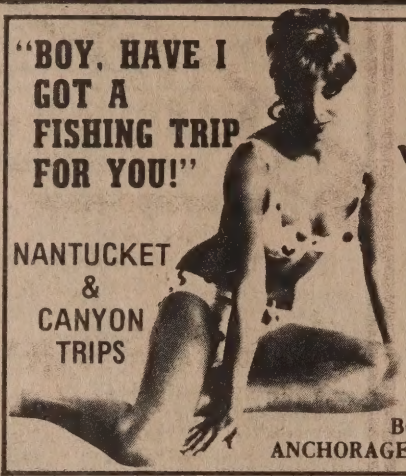
The **Captain Lou II** reports that on Saturday, Paul Wetteran of Cambria Heights had 30 flounder and 3 fluke along with a 5½ pound black. Flounders are pretty good but the fluke are fattening up so, that the Captain Lou II is now officially fluking for the season.

The **Lucky Strike II** has been belting away at 1½ to 2 pound flounders over the weekend and on Saturday 11 year old Tom Erny of Flushing stuck a 4 pound in Swift Creek.

The **Starstream II** reports excellent sea bass action up until the mid week storm last week on Tuesday and Wednesday, but then for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the fishing bounced back and very good catches were made these days. Though lots of drops were required. An average catch was 25 sea bass plus a couple of ling and blacks. On Tuesday, a 3 pound blue and a 3½ pound sea bass were brought over the rail as well. As the water warms, the sea bass fishing should get even better.

Captain Spider Schmidt of the **Aloma II** reports very good fluke fishing on Saturday and Sunday, with Saturday the

LINDENHURST



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John Foti and Jack Sherwood with their catch of stripers weighing 9, 16, 22 and 31 lbs. The bass were caught on red fin lures in the Great Kills Harbor area. Photo courtesy of Santo's Sport Shop.

last of the outgoing and the beginning of the incoming which produced over 300 fish on Saturday resulting in 180 keepers. Sunday there were 175 keepers out of 200 fish. This was all in Jones Inlet. Captain John on the **Aloma** has been doing his thing on the sea bass and ling (that rhymes.) At local wrecks and rock piles, in just a few drops.

The charterboat **Blue Fin** fished for flounder on Saturday and Sunday. On Sat. the Barrel Inn Fishing Club of Bellerose fished the outgoing until the change and the last half of the incoming with excellent results using worms and clam. Some fluke were taken at anchor with fluke belly. John Byank of Elmont had 20 fish and a 2½ pound fluke for the pool. This was in Swift Creek. On Sunday, 150 flounder departed Swift Creek for the Bluefin's box during the last of the ebb, up to 1½ pounds. On Sunday, chumming with cooked kernel corn was done.

The **Captain Hall** reports very good fluking with a five pound pool fish on Sunday. Both Saturday and Sunday saw 7 to 9 fluke average catch. Captain Dick Hall has been fishing Jones Inlet mainly. A few sea bass per drift are being taken as well.

The **Captain Al** reports plenty of sea bass, all you could hope for. On Friday, Fred Hornby and small group took 165 sea bass and 25 ling. This was for 7 anglers. What a day. Al says this is the best sea bass fishing in years.

BALDWIN

Arthur Street Fishing Station reports good fluking over the weekend with his boats bringing back fish from Funday Creek and Reynolds Channel using sand eels and spearing. This is a new station and the boats and motors are spanking new.

POINT LOOKOUT

Fluke fishing is excellent in Reynolds Channel and Jones Inlet according to **Ed's Fishing Station**. John Cayrea and his buddy John Hack took 15 fluke to 4½ pounds at Jones Inlet using sandeels and squid at the top of the incoming tide. Flounder fishing continues good at the Coast Guard Station and buoys 16 and 18 at Cinder Creek. Chumming helps but is not necessary. The blacks are doing very well at Meadowbrook and Long Creek Bridges using fiddlers. There is a lot of sea bass of about 1½ pounds in Funday Bay and near Long Creek. These are being taken on clam. Most of the fishing is best on the incoming tide and the first half of the outgoing.

Scotty's Fishing Station reports fluke active in Reynolds Channel and from Jones Inlet to the Point Lookout Bridge, best action taking place on 1 hour both sides of the high. Andy asks that you please return the short fish. Bluefish are being taken in spurts between the Jones Beach rock jetty and the Tower. A big load of bluefish has been located in 70 feet of water just about due south of the inlet. The beaches are producing blues 2 to 4 pounds for casters. Blacks are very good at the Meadowbrook Bridge, at Long Creek Bridge and at the Tea and Roda wrecks for the bigger boats. Weakfish is spotty and those caught are still full of spawn. Return these, should you get one. Flounder is very good at the C.G. Station at both openings and off the beach between the flasher buoy and the mussel bed chumming with mussels. Fish here are ¾ to 1½ pounds. The Staten Island and N.J. Coast are producing bass on tubes, and some stripers have been taken off Point Lookout beaches on tins.

ISLAND PARK

Beckman's Tackle in Lynbrook says the fluke fishing is holding up very well in Reynolds Channel east from Debs Inlet. A few weaks have been caught off Duck Point and in Cinder Creek using the Bingle Dandy lure. Striped bass have been taken on sand worms off the beaches. They ranged from 2 to 6 pounds and are picky with catches of about 1 to 3 fish. Flounders are still in back of the Short Beach Coast Guard Station. Striped bass have been slow but clam chummers have had moderate catches of schoolies at the Meadowbrook Bridge.

The Ginnie Mae reports fluking was very good over the weekend, that there are a lot of fish in the bay. Captain Bill is fishing Reynold's Channel, Duck Point and other favorite spots of his with spearing and sand eels. Very few throwbacks compared to last year and a lot of keepers.

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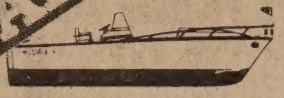

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Joe DeVita caught this 8 lb. 2 oz. bass in the Great Kills Park area. Photo courtesy of Santo's Sport Shop.

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ATLANTIC BEACH

Captain Ron Lepper of the **Kim** and of the Atlantic Beach Charter and Guide Boat Fleet reports that during the week bass fishing was poor due to the weather but that he fished Sandy Hook on Saturday and Sunday amongst a flotilla. On Sunday, the **Kim** had 6 bass from 12 to 24 pounds along with a 12 pound blue. This was for Bob Untiner of Hempstead. The catch was on Danny plugs and Lupo Almighty Squid, white 1½ oz. trolled on wire. Ron says that the water temperature is still a little low, ranging from 49 to 51 degrees.

Captain Don Eichin of the charterboat **Shearwater** another member of the Atlantic Beach Fleet, fished the Highlands on Sunday and took 6 bass from 14 to 34 pounds plus an 8 pound blue. The big fish took the Danny plug and the others fell to Lupo spoons. These fish had bunker in their bellies. The happy fishermen were Phil Forelli and Jack Hoelzer of Long Beach. Don informed us that he has been made a field tester for Shakespeare Tackle Company.

JAMAICA BAY

Noehren's Fishing Station reports a few fluke have been taken on live killies and sand eels at the Rockaway Point Jetty. Sand worms are scoring on 3 to 4 pound weakfish at the Marine Parkway Bridge. There are a lot of striped bass at the North Channel Bridge and for boats at the north trestle. Fish are from shorts to 4 pounds taking sand worms. The flounder are still pretty good at the South Channel Bridge using bloodworms.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Stella Maris reports the fishing is blacks and sea bass with a few fluke and striped bass thrown in. Blacks are at the Rockaway Jetty and off Seabright. Theyu are from 1½ pounds and up and are taken on clams or crabs. Sea bass are in the same area as the blacks and on the same bait. A few fluke are at Romar Shoals and off Seabright. These are less than 2 pounds and are hitting sand eels, spearing and squid. Also at Romar Shoals and off Rockaway Jetty are striped bass of 20 pounds and better taking bucktails; but these are just a few fish.

Improving fluke catches off the Plum Beach flats according to **Bay End Dock**. Throwbacks average about 50 percent and are best taken on the incoming tide using squid. There are still flounders but they are moving out towards the Rockaway Jetty. Blacks are plentiful at the Manhattan Beach Reef using fiddlers. Marine Parkway Bridge also has a good quantity of blacks. These are caught mostly on the incoming tide. Blacks can also be had off the Tin Can Grounds. The Tin Can Grounds to West Bank to Sandy Hook is where umbrella rig trollers are picking up small quantities of striped bass. The largest of these fish go to 24 pounds. There is an early run of blue claw crabs in Jamaica Bay. Blues have started to show off Manhattan Beach. There are plenty of little bunker in Jamaica Bay.

Captain Kevin of the **Dorothy B** reports very good sea bass action at local wrecks and at Sea Bright, with some blackfish mixed in. The sea bass are running up to 3 pounds and averaging 1 to 1½ pounds, with 20 fish per man as an average. Captain Pat will now be sharing the duties in the wheelhouse with Captain Kevin.

The **Amberjack IV** will be moving into a new program of cod, pollack and tile offshore wreck trips this season, along with their regular daily trips for whatever is hitting the hardest. They are presently going for sea bass, blacks and ling and the catches are good. Their next trip offshore will leave this Friday evening at 11 P.M. and will return at 5 P.M. on Saturday. Reservations are a must.

Captain Larry of the **Eagle** reports the sea bass fishing is excellent at Sea Bright, with fish up to 3 pounds. The **Eagle** and the **Palace III** have volunteered their boats for Tuesday May 25th, and will be taking large groups of disabled vets out fishing. Nathan's will be supplying the food free of charge. This was all organized by Jerry Kenny of the N.Y. Daily News and we doff our hats to Jerry, the **Eagle**, the **Palace** and Nathans for taking time to thank these guys who sacrificed so much for all of us.

The **Pilot II** is still racking up scores on blacks off the Jersey coast, as usual.

The **Helen H** is fising Sea Bright and producing very good catches of sea bass and blackfish, with 40 fish per man not uncommon.

The 10 A.M. party boat **Chief** is doing a job on the ling and whiting and also the sea bass, blacks, which ever ones are under the keel. Captain Harold is fishing the ambrose area.

The **Flamingo II** tells of very good sea bass catches off the Jersey coast wrecks, rocks and reefs, to the tune of 30 to 50 fish per man average. This includes some humpback sea bass. Averages are a little larger than last years. Some ling and blacks are also mixed in.

Captain Tony of the **Big Mohawk II** and Captain Dan had the AT & T Long Lines out on Saturday and they did a fine job on the sea bass and blacks, to the tune of about 25 fish per man. On Sunday the Fulton Lounge Fishing Clubv of Brooklyn took over 500 sea bass and blacks and ling. They are fishing Sea Bright. Tony mentioned that his weekday charters should be taken advantage of as his rates are low and fish never think clearly during the week anyway.

Captain Johnny Kull of the **Jonny K II** had Mike Bensen and party out on Saturday and they got 3 bass, 16½, 22¾ and 26½ pounds fishing west of the West Bank Light on Bingle rigs and spoons. On Sunday several 6 to 10 pound stripers and 1 9 lb. blue were taken on Bingle umbrellas with Lancers.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop said the first entrants into the Striped Bass Fishing

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Contest for boats came in Sunday. At present in first place is Herb Larsen with a 45 pound bass taken near Old Orchard and West Bank on bunker bait. 2nd is Dick Killpot with 43½ pounds of striped bass on a Lupo Danny Swimmer; and 3d place was Mike Galletta on the Gina¶G who took a 23½ pound bass with a bunker spoon. All these fish were taken in the same general area which was Old Orchard and West Bank. The surf striped bass fishing has been fairly steady with the schools roaming between Oakwood Beach, Great Kills Harbor and Annadale Beach. This makes for a lot of hopping around to catch your fish. Right now your best bets are Redfin and Creek Chub poppers. Bait has been used on the beach side of Great Kills Park with much success. Other areas have been slow pick for striped bass. Flounders have just about had it but blackfishing remains firm at most rocky areas. There is a general good pick at the Bug Light on fiddler crabs mainly. There has been a showing of fluke on drifted bait off the Bug Light. Annadale and Princess Bay had just a showing of blues which took either bait or tins from the shore mostly.

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

ORIENT POINT

Ray at the **Orient By The Sea Marina** said the flounder fishing is very good at the ruins west of Gardiners Island and off Orient Point State Park using sand worms. striped bass are pretty good in Plum Gut using big bucktails with pork rind. Over the weekend, Joe Angivienne took a 51 pound bass with this method. Average catch is four or five a night with fish ranging from 25 to 32 pounds.

GREENPORT

Art White's Bait Shop said the night weakfishing has been very good in the Peconic at Middle Grounds. Bluefish have also been taken along with the weaks. Jumbo porgies are in the same spot during the day. Striped bass fishing in Plum Gut has taken an upswing. Deep jigging with yellow bucktails and pork rind are taking large fish some of which exceed 25 pounds.

The **Brand X** has had excellent porgy fishing most of the week. Night time fishing for blues and weaks has been excellent. Some blues have gone to 11 pounds. Light tackle is recommended for weakfishing.

Captain Richie Jensen of the **Wilhelric** reports the porgy fishing has been building up real well. Sunday's high winds slowed the catch temporarily. The porgies are 1 to 2 pounds. Night fishing for weaks is very good and so so during the day. At night schools of blues of 2 to 5 pounds also congregate near the boat. You then get these blues along with 4 to 6 pound weakfish which are taken on light tackle. Captain Jensen said there are very few weakfish smaller than 4 pounds and most are full of roe. He says the weakfishing has yet to hit its peak.

Captain Dave of the **Pooka V** reports very good evening weakfishing with a mixture of bluefish. Daytime, porgies including humpbacks are being taken in these fertile east end waters. These twilight weakfishing forays are south of the Middle Ground buoy, casting shrimp lures or with bait.

Joe Hoggard, Artie Thames, John Bogans and E.R. Tribble caught 305 porgies from 2 to 3¼ lbs., 26 weakfish from 5 to 8 lbs and blackfish up to 8 lbs. The fish were caught in the Rose Grove area on worms, squid and skimmers. Photo courtesy of Capt. Marty's Fishing Station.

SOUTHOLD

Dot at **Southold Fishing Station** says the weak and porgy fishing has been very good. The weaks are at buoys 17 and 18 and are being taken on shrimp lures with squid. They are 2 to 4 pounds and are biting best in the early morning or late afternoon. Porgies of 1 pound and better are at Jessups on skimmer clams. Dot says that the flounder fishing has taken a definite down turn.

Al Mott, avid angler from Willis Marine took 7 weakfish on Salty Dogs in the Peconics last Tuesday.

RIVERHEAD

Riverhead Marine Supply reports heavy fluke fishing in Shinnecock Inlet. Scattered blues are chasing weakfish at the inlet and pushing them north. A fair amount of blues are being trolled outside Shinnecock Inlet and they run 3 to 4 pounds.

ROCKY POINT

Blackfish catches are getting better and better said Patricia at **Nick's Fishing Station**. Fiddlers and green crabs remain the most productive bait. For the better spots in Rocky Point ask Patricia for the exact locations. Some of these fish are running 8 to 10 pounds. Striped bass fishing with sandworms have brought in increased catches for the blackfishermen.

NEW SUFFOLK

Captain Marty's Fishing Station says the weaks are best at South Race and Middle Grounds and East of Nassau Point. The Bingle Dandy Lure as well as

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Howard Pfeiffer and Richard Kammer with 17 weakfish they caught between bouys 14 and 15. Photo courtesy of Port of Egypt Fishing Station.

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other shrimp type lures and squid are your best bet. Very few flounders have been taken during the past week with the porgies more than making up for their lack. Middle Ground and Rose's Grove areas using worms and clams are your best bet. A few fluke have shown up but no significant catches to date.

JAMESPORT

Frank at **Jamesport Bait and Tackle** said the weather slowed the fishing down but more species have moved in over the weekend and when the weather abates fishing should be very good. The blues have started and these 3 pound fish are hitting small popping plugs and sinkers. They are throughout the bay whereas the weakfish are mostly in the creeks. These are 3 to 6 pound fish that are hitting mostly sand worms or squid. There are hardly any flounder being caught. Fluke catches are getting better and better but no big run as yet. Combination baits of squid and sand eels drifted along the bottom of Nassau Point are best. You can also try Jessups for the fluke. Frank says the creeks have large quantities of grass shrimp.

Warren at **Warren's Bait and Tackle** has informed us that John Bogdan of Aquabogue took a 34 inch long, 20½ inch girth, 14 pound 12 ounce weakfish on an M & N Bigmouth on 12 pound test DuPont Stren west of Robbins Island on May 15th at 10 A.M. This is a lead head jig, white with yak hair. IGFA is being sent pictures and forms. It was weighed in at Warren's.

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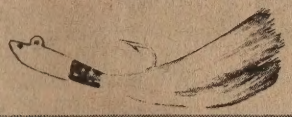

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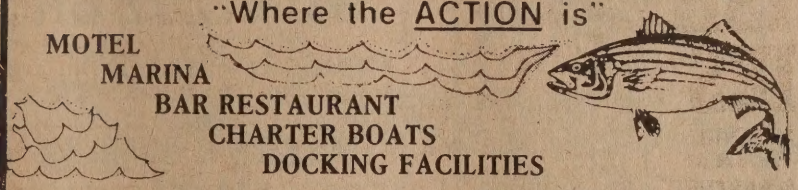

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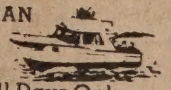

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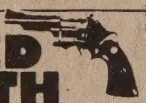

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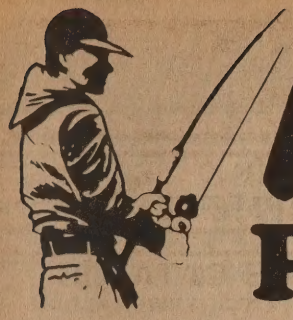

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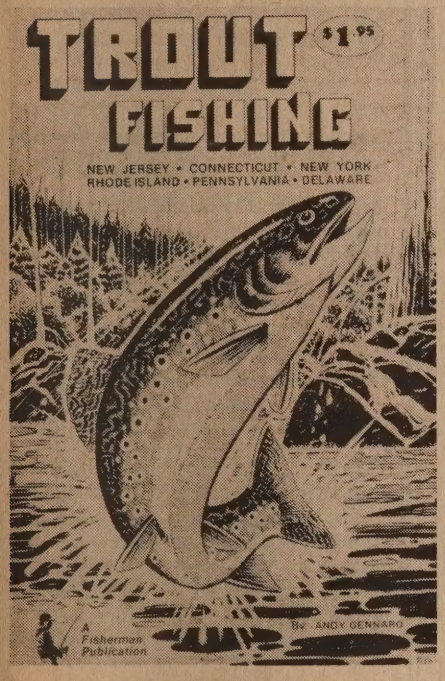

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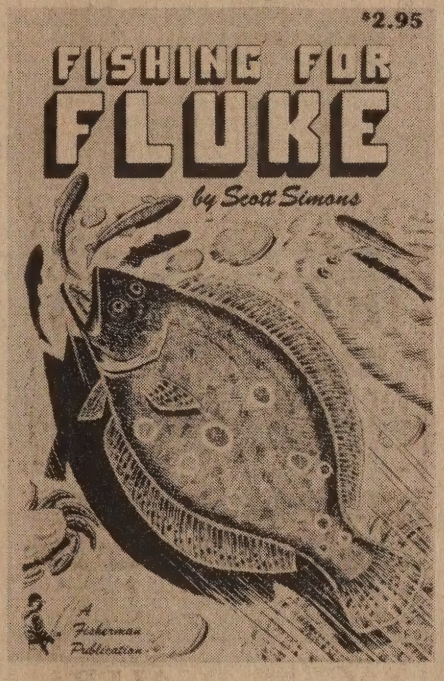

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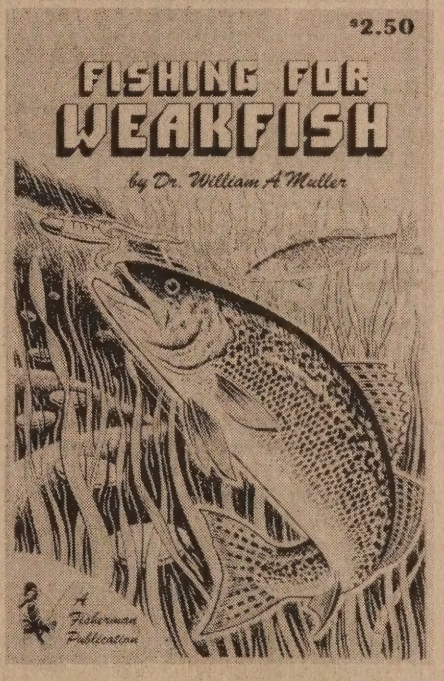

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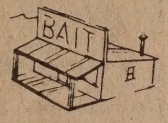

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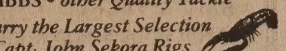

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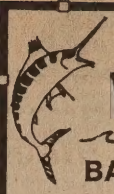

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Some of the mackerel caught in Hempstead Harbor by Gloria Hayn aboard her boat the Kenglo V out of Glen Cove. Subscriber Club Photo.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Dick's Sporting Goods in Miller Place reports good catches of blacks and porgies. Most of these are best caught on an outgoing tide. The usual crab baits for blacks and worms for porgies. There are still strong catches of striped bass with weaks mixed in on worm bait. Mackerel are about 1½ miles offshore and occasionally hit the beaches.

PORT JEFFERSON

Tony Bresnak of the **Days Off II** said big blacks are being taken on worms, clams and fiddlers. A few humpback porgies are being caught and more are on their way. Saturday saw the Knights of Columbus of Hicksville and their pool fish was a 10 pound black. On Sunday, a nine and a half pound black took the pool for Manhasset Bay Fishing Club. Both days the boat was loaded with blackfish.

Both the **Betty W** and the **Janet C** are having good blackfishing with sea bass and porgies mixed in. These porgies are large humpbacks. Blackfish catches average about 10 per man.

Ken at **Anglers Den** said that the blackfishing was spotty over the weekend. Sea bass and porgies also were in the same category. Rudy Demaria using a very small diamond jig type lure pulled two striped bass of 8 and 9½ pounds from Port Jeff Harbor.

NORTHPORT

Mort at **Larkfield Sports Center** reports blues of 2 to 3 pounds were taken off Crab Meadow Beach on Friday. These were just a couple of fish with no run established as of yet. Off the same beach, 3 weaks of around 8 to 9 pounds were taken bucktailing. For better catches of weakfish worm floating in the Duck Island area is recommended. Blackfishing is good at most rocky piles.

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FISHERMAN'S JEWELRY—wear your favorite fish on your tie, lapel, jacket or cap! Unmatched for beauty and detail. Characteristics of each species are captured and frozen in lifelike action. Available as an oval pin (beautiful)! Tie clasp or tie tack in gold or silver finish. Choice of striper, tuna, striped marlin, sword, bluefish, salmon, sail, largemouth bass, dolphin, bonefish, trout, white marlin, Tarpon. Send check or money order for $5 (includes postage and handling) to Miller, 150 Babylon Turnpike, Merrick New York 11566.

FISHING TACKLE

LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES on hundreds of salt water lures, rods, reels, accessories and galvanized boat trailers. Send $.50 for catalog (refunded on first order) to: Salt Water Tackle Box, Dept LIF, Falmouth, Mass. 02541.

FLUKE WEAKFISH KILLER RIG—Hi-Low Rig, A proven design that does a job on these two species. Combines already famous fluke killer rig with a high hook for tide-runner weaks. All hand tied with finest materials. Includes FREE instructions for making your own rigs. 3 rigs for $4. Send check or money order to P. Miller, 150 Babylon Turnpike, Merrick, NY 11566.

NOW AVAILABLE—The ultimate FLUKE KILLER RIG—Deadly, double hook design, long the secret weapon of the "pros". You'll hook more and lose fewer fish, since fluke can't avoid adjustable tail hook. Each rig hand tied, finest materials. 3 rigs for $3. Includes FREE instructions. Send check or money order to P. Miller. 150 Babylon Tpk. Merrick, NY 11566. Pays for itself in fluke dinners.

FLOUNDER KILLER RIGS—Flounders are committing suicide on this widely used 3-hook rig, especially designed for the "Meat Fisherman". Special design and construction keeps tangling of hooks at a minimum. Hand Made. Finest materials. 3 completely tied rigs for $3 which includes FREE instructions for tying your own. Send check or money order to P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpk. Merrick 11566.

NEW IMPROVED—Tandem Hook Fluke Rig/ Latest refinement of a "swinging hook" to this popular fluke killer rig allows you to adjust the tandem hooks to the length of your strip bait or sand eel. Keeps your bait perfectly straight and natural looking while it puts a hook where strip baits are normally bitten off by fluke. Send $3 for 3 prototype rigs and directions on how to tie your own to avoid paying this ridiculous price to: Scott Simons, 1428 Richland Blvd, Bay Shore, New York 11706.

FREE CATALOG—Expanded Do-It-Yourself mold section. Cast plastic or lead. 41 original soft plastic lures. 5 sizes. Shrimp: plus eels, worms, squid, etc. All supplies. Many specials. VIKING, 1306 North Road, Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909.

HAND TIED HOOKS, Fluke 10/$1, Flounder 14/$1; blackfish 10/$1; Stripers 9/$1; Weakfish 10/$1; Porgy 10/$1; Wire Leader Bluefish 10/$1; Two Hook Fluke Rig 4/$1; Free catalog. Mountaintop, Starksboro, Vt. 05487.

FISHING RIG PACKAGE—5 flounder rigs, 5 blackfish rigs, 5 porgy rigs, 5 long leader fluke hooks. Send ten dollars in check or money order to F. Nicklas, 400 East 89th Street, New York, NY 10028.

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JEEP—See Suffolk's Largest Selection at our new location. FREE this month—SOFT TOP on all CJ's. 10% Parts Discount to all LIF Card Holders. CARSON AND SCUDDER—AMC Jeep (516) HA 7-0270. 1220 E. Jericho Turnpike. Huntington. Corner Dear Park Avenue.

1974 International Scout—4-Wheel Drive, V-8, 2 Speed Transfer Case, Warn hub. A/C, 10 x 15 Rhinos, Many extras. Set up for beach. Excellent condition. Buying boat. $4800 or best offer. Call (516) 221-6371.

'71 APACHE—Mesa—Pop-up Camper, Solid State, Sleeps 6, Stove, Sink, Refrigerator, Spare Tire, Portable Toilet, Privacy Curtains, Awning. $1200. Good condition. Call (516) 586-5264.

1973 JEEP WAGONEER, 4-Wheel Drive, Automatic, Warn Hubs, Power Steering, Power Brakes, 8 cyl. Heavy Duty Trailer Hitch. Excellent condition. $3350. Call (516) 420-8340.

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725-1623

For those who want to try for flounder, Callahan's is your best bet. Striped bass fishing is no big thing and they are caught mixed with weakfish.

HUNTINGTON

George at **Four Winds Bait and Tackle** had a couple of fellas in who were casting surface plugs in the late afternoon off the Centre Island Reef. They hit bass of from 5 to 10 pounds. Better catches of these fish can be had trolling worms from the Cold Spring Harbor Causeway, Huntington Inlet, Target Rock and off the Beach at Sand City. Fish sizes range from 3 to 10 pounds. Sand City, Duck Island, and the Centerport Hole all have weakfish to 7 pounds on shrimp type lures or worms. Flounder fishing is down probably because most people are not trying for them. Porgy fishing is good with Sand City being the prime area and also at Marshall Field where blacks can be had also. Your better blackfishing is at Eaton's Neck, Makamah Beach and Target Rock using clams, crabs or worms. Some mackerel are still out in the middle of the sound.

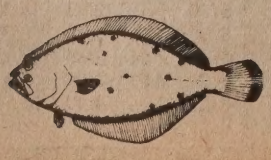
Captain Pete Novillino of the **Ever Ready** said there was great flounder fishing on Saturday inside the harbor. Great blackfishing was also had with mackerel as a bonus offshore.

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle reports large and plentiful blackfish at 11B and Sand City. Mack Carter of E. Northport had 37 blacks all over 5 pounds at 11B on worms. One fish went to 10 pounds. Large porgies are at Sand City taking worms. Weakfish have been spotty at Lloyd Harbor, Duck Island and Cold Spring Harbor. Striped bass have been taken at Huntington Inlet on popping plugs at dusk and dawn. worm trolling at night has also been productive.

PORT WASHINGTON

Weakfish have started to be taken both inside and outside of Manhasset Bay according to **Moreland's Bait and Tackle**. Shrimp type lures such as the Tri-Fin Jig 'N Shrimp as well as most baits are most productive. Mackerel are still in the Sound and flounders can be had for those who want to try for them. A lot of blackfish are in most of the rocky areas all on fresh bait. A lot of these are six to seven pound fish. The MBSC Derby was won by a fish of approximately 9 pounds. There are a lot of small striped bass but because of the windy weather lately no one can get out to get them.

Christopher Fischer of Huntington caught this 6½ lb. blackfish. Photo courtesy of Ronnies Bait & Tackle.



HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THUR	7:33	7:48	8:21	8:37	8:15	8:29	9:09	9:17	11:38	11:28	11:05	11:16	7:22	7:41	
FRI	8:13	8:25	9:01	9:15	8:55	9:05	9:48	9:54	—	12:02	11:46	11:55	8:05	8:23	
SAT	8:53	8:59	9:38	9:52	9:35	9:38	10:27	10:31	12:00	12:18	—	12:28	8:46	9:03	
SUN	9:31	9:37	10:17	10:30	10:13	10:13	11:08	11:07	12:18	12:48	12:35	1:06	9:28	9:44	
MON	10:12	10:16	10:56	11:10	10:55	10:49	11:50	11:49	12:54	1:25	1:15	1:47	10:12	10:27	
TUE	10:55	10:57	11:39	11:52	11:42	11:32	—	12:31	1:36	2:06	1:57	2:31	10:56	11:12	
WED	11:45	11:48	—	12:24	—	12:28	12:34	1:21	2:21	2:53	2:43	3:16	11:43	11:59	
THUR	—	12:35	12:39	1:15	12:22	1:17	1:24	2:13	3:07	3:43	3:30	4:07	—	12:35	

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide , add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	— 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	— 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	— 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	— 0 12
Seaside Park	— 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	— 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	— 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	— 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	— 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	— 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	— 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	— 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	— 0 38
Democrat Point	— 0 38
Coast Guard Station	— 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	— 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	— 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	— 0 08
Herod Point	— 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	— 0 20
Truman Beach	— 0 42
Falkner Island	— 0 13
Sachem Head	— 0 10
Branford Harbor	— 0 07
New Haven Harbor	— 0 08
Milford Harbor	— 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	— 0 03
Saugatuck River	— 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	— 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	— 0 14
Montauk Inlet	— 0 25
Montauk Point	— 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	— 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	— 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	— 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	— 0 10
Execution Light	— 0 06
Manhasset Bay	— 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	— 0 11
City Island	— 0 03
Rye Beach	— 0 28
Port Chester	— 0 09
Mamaroneck	— 0 08
New Rochelle	— 0 24
Davids Island	— 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	— 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	— 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPOR[redacted]

Sakonnet	— 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	— 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	— 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	— 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	— 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

6/4	5:25	8:32
6/9	5:24	8:35
6/14	5:23	8:37
6/19	5:24	8:39
6/24	5:25	8:40

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
6/27	6/5	6/12	6/19

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

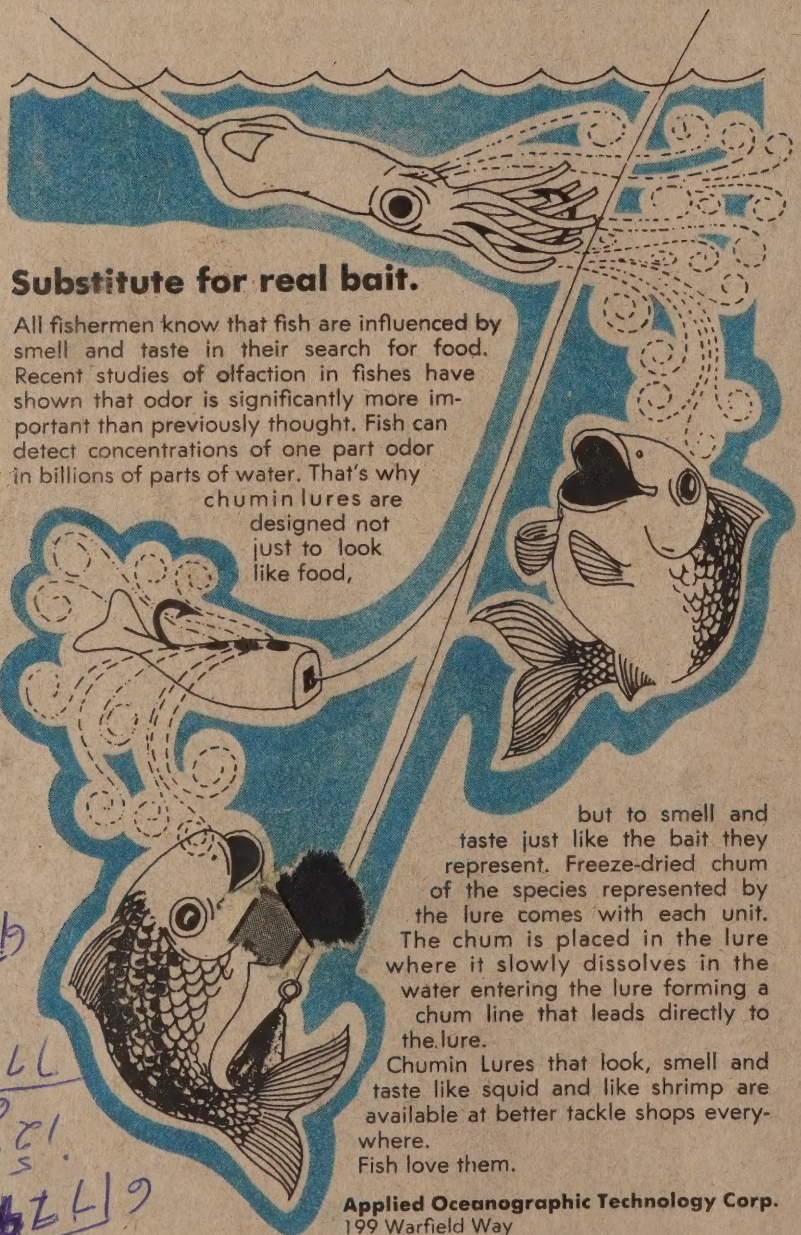
The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
5/27	3:45	**10:20**	4:15	**10:45**
5/28	4:30	**11:05**	5:00	**11:25**
5/29	5:15	**11:50**	5:40	:
5/30	6:00	**12:15**	6:30	**12:45**
5/31	6:55	**1:10**	7:20	**1:40**
6/1	7:55	**2:05**	8:15	**2:35**
6/2	8:50	**3:05**	9:15	**3:30**
6/3	9:45	**4:00**	10:10	**4:25**

CHUMIN LURES.

BETTER BECAUSE:

The best way to a fish's mouth is through his nose.



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All fishermen know that fish are influenced by smell and taste in their search for food. Recent studies of olfaction in fishes have shown that odor is significantly more important than previously thought. Fish can detect concentrations of one part odor in billions of parts of water. That's why chumin lures are designed not just to look like food, but to smell and taste just like the bait they represent. Freeze-dried chum of the species represented by the lure comes with each unit. The chum is placed in the lure where it slowly dissolves in the water entering the lure forming a chum line that leads directly to the lure.

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C. Altenkirch & Son
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B & B Tackle & Sports
Montauk Hwy., Center Moriches

Moriches Sports Center
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Center Moriches

Port Jefferson Sporting Goods
Jefferson Plaza, Pt. Jefferson

Skidmore's Sport Shop
Montauk Hwy., Hampton Bays

"Three Aces" Fishing Center
Montauk Hwy., Hampton Bays

Sportorama, Inc.
Rt. 110, Huntington Station

American Sportsman Shop
Montauk Hwy., Sayville

Charlie's Bait & Tackle
Montauk Hwy., Lindenhurst

Causeway Bait & Tackle
Merrick Rd., Wantagh

Lon Wanser
Merrick Rd., Seaford

Fred's Bait & Tackle
Sunrise Hwy., Southampton

Merrick Sport Center, Inc.
Merrick Rd., Bellmore

Augies Bait & Tackle
Fire Island Ave., Babylon

Kwaks Tackle Shop
Merrick Rd., Bellmore

Ronnie's Bait & Tackle
Depot Rd., Huntington Station